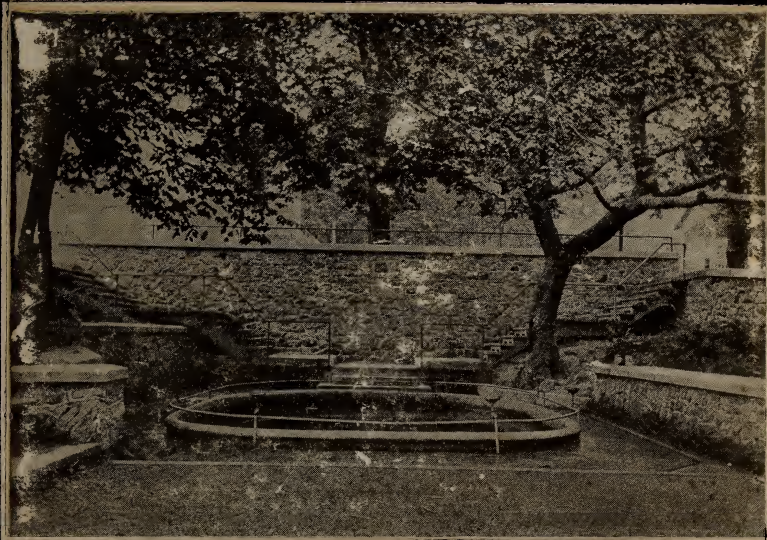


HISTORY^{OF} BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME



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CHRIST BLESSING LITTLE CHILDREN.

A HISTORY
OF
BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME

OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

LOCATED AT WOMELSDORF, PA.

BY
REV. THOMAS M. YUNDT.

REVISED AND ENLARGED BY
REV. WILSON F. MORE.

PHILADELPHIA:
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DEDICATION.

To the memory of those faithful servants of the Lord
who, having labored in this good work without
remuneration while upon earth, have now
gone to their eternal reward, this
little volume is affection-
ately dedicated.

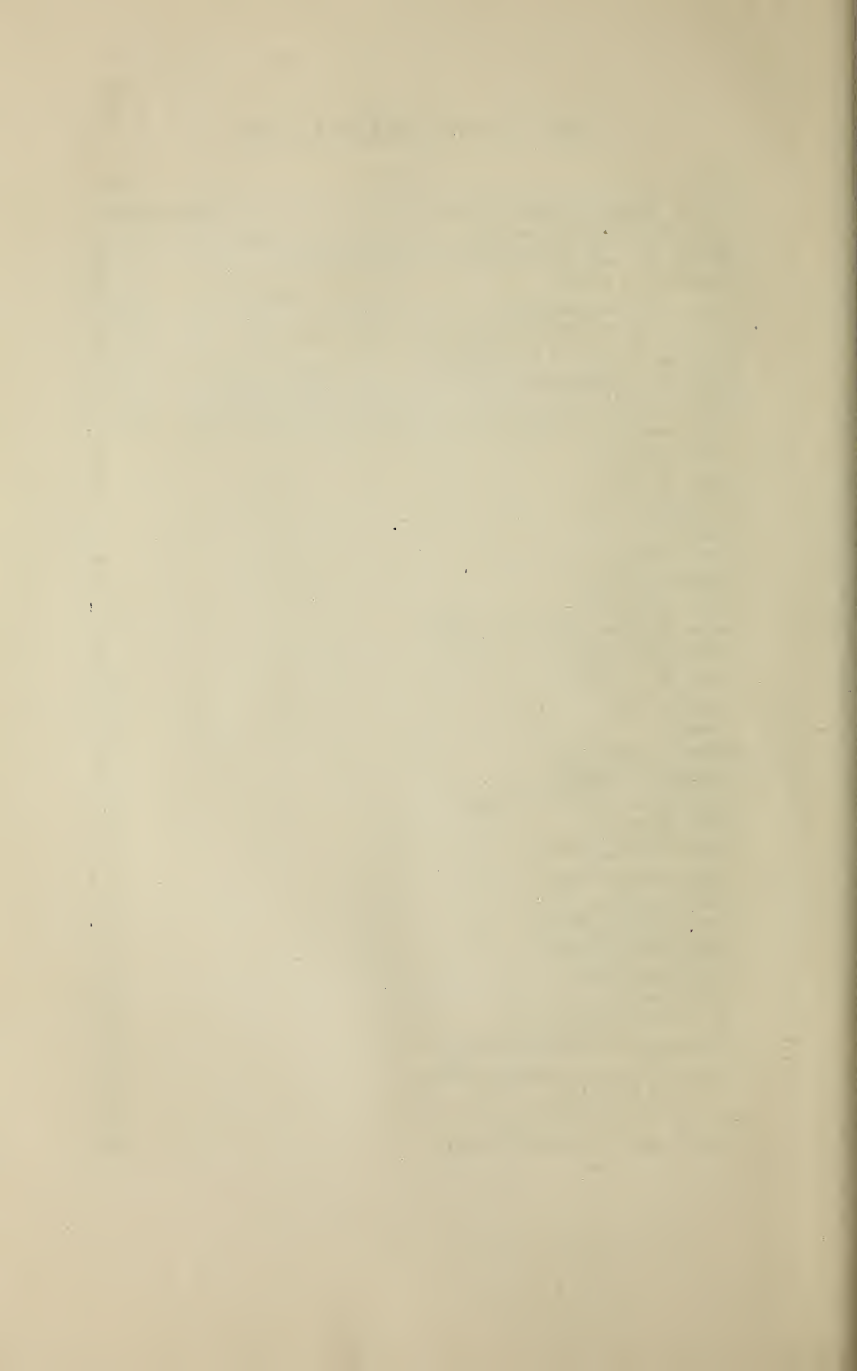
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PREFACE TO THE REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION.

A HISTORY of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa., was published by order of the Board of Managers, in 1888. Considering the fact that most of the early records of the institution were destroyed when the home was burned, in 1882, that history is as complete as it could well be made. But eighteen years have gone by since the first edition was published, and in that time many things have been done and experienced at Bethany which may be of interest and value to the Church, especially to that portion of it which helps in the work of caring for the orphans. At the suggestion of the venerable president of the Board of Managers, the present superintendent has carefully revised the first edition, has patiently searched the official minutes and other sources of information and has arranged the material thus gathered into chapters, which bring the history of the institution up to date.

Thanks to my predecessor in office, the material for this later history is rather abundant, but owing to the necessity of keeping the work in just proportion and within reasonable limits, it was necessary to pass by much of interest and to take only that which seemed

of permanent importance and essential to the connected story.

In the search of the records, and especially in the clerical work of preparing the manuscript, I have received much valuable assistance from one of the orphans, Effie R. Berkenstock, of which grateful acknowledgment is hereby made.

W. F. M.

WOMELSDORF, PA.

May, 1907

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

"FEED my lambs," was the command which the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd, gave to the Apostle Peter in the last days of His life upon earth. The Master wanted the little ones to be cared for, and this also, as His other work, was entrusted to His disciples, His followers through all time.

It is an important, a responsible trust, given to adults, to jealously care for those who are young, pliable, subject to good and to evil influences.

The question of the proper training of children and youth is one that interests not only Christians, but should concern statesmen, especially Christian statesmen. The words of Thomas Carlyle on this subject come home to such with force: "*Here lies for you an inestimable loan; take all heed thereof, in all carefulness employ it; with high recompense, or else with heavy penalty will it one day be required back.*"

Where children are blessed with good parents, the question of the proper place for their training is a simple one. There is no blessing that can come to a child that can at all be compared with the possession of good, Christian parents. The prayers, instructions and example of a pious mother and the influence of an upright father can not be equalled by any or all the other

forces combined in the training and proper development of a child.

But it is a sad fact that not all children are thus blessed. What shall be done with those who by death are deprived of their parents, or, what may even be worse, are cursed with bad father or mother, or both? The name of these is legion. The children of the criminal class, however, or of the indolent poor are by no means the only ones whose circumstances arouse our compassion and justly call for our assistance. There is a large class who have prior claims even to these. They are the children who, in their infant years, were watched over by pious mothers, who were consecrated to God in holy baptism, whose early lives were promising of sweet dispositions, of upright characters, of useful lives, if developed under proper influences. The mother of such, deprived of support by the death of a husband, is reduced to the necessity of working from morning till night for the support of herself and perhaps one or two of her children, but cannot care for a larger family. The children then, bereft of a father by death, and of the care of a mother by the stern necessities of life, or perchance also by death, are given to the followers of Christ as a precious and special charge.

But "Am I my brother's keeper?" Yes, I am, for in keeping him I protect myself, and fulfill the command of God. To the Church, this is a question of obedience, of love to the Master; to the State, it is a question of dollars and cents, of security to life and property. For, dimes spent in the proper training of children save dollars required for the apprehension,

conviction, restraining and reforming of criminals, if they can be reformed.

The state, the city, the community, as well as the Church, are concerned in this question, for it is one of no mean proportions. Without being able to give exact statistics, there are in the Orphans' Homes, Infant Asylums and Reform Schools in the United States about 60,000 boys and girls. Nor does this represent the whole number of those who are dependent upon the charity of their fellowmen for support. For in it is not included that large army upon the streets and in the miserable homes made wretched by the drunkenness and other vices of unnatural parents. Without being able to care for all the children that should be cared for, there are over one hundred more institutions in our land devoted to this work than there are colleges and universities combined. There are not less than 5,000 officers and teachers actively engaged in this service. The money permanently invested for these institutions represents many millions of dollars, while the contributions to their immediate support amount to hundreds of thousands every year.

The method of caring for and training children in institutions is frequently the target for severe criticism, and that, too, by persons who are interested in the general question, but whose enthusiasm seems at times to befog their judgment. Without doubt, the best place for a child is in its own home, with a Christian father and mother, and the next best place is in another private family, at the head of which are Christian parents. Certain societies are at present actively en-

gaged in caring for children by placing them into private homes (as most institutions also do on certain conditions). They are doing a good work. May God bless them richly in their labors, for there is work enough for all who are interested in this question. If the "family plan," as it is sometimes called, could be ideally carried out, it would no doubt be the better of the two; but as society is constituted at present, and until a sufficient number of Christian families can be found who, aside from pecuniary motives, will interest themselves in and adopt this large army of dependent children, Institutions or Homes are indispensable to the proper training of the rising generation. The comparative merits of the two systems were thoroughly discussed years ago in Germany, when Pastor Bræm started his "Society for the Education of Indigent Children," at Neukirchen, and the conclusion arrived at then was: "The two systems need not necessarily be antagonistic, but can, in friendly co-operation, continue side by side, like two allies, waging war with the common enemy." Both systems have defects, no doubt, but to us the plan of "farming out" children for a stipulated sum appears to be radically wrong. The temptation is great to make money by the transaction, and evil results follow.

Much might be said upon the subject of caring for this class of children. The societies and institutions do a great amount of good to the state and the church by their labors, but in studying this question as others, we should not be satisfied with merely a consideration of a remedy for the evil. "An ounce of prevention is

better than a pound of cure." How to take care of these children is only one side of the question, or rather one phase of it. The true physician will not be satisfied, as a rule, with the external diagnosis of a case. He will study his patient, and, if possible, learn all about his history, and the effect his former life and even the habits of his ancestors may have produced upon his constitution. So in regard to this question. To be sure, we cannot prevent children from becoming orphans (no more can you at times prevent fever,) and that, too, the children of most estimable parents. To take care of such, is a work of love. There is, however, a large proportion of children in our orphans' homes, for whom there naturally should have been better things in store. To take care of these, is also a work of love, but in such cases, if the prevention had been applied, the cure would not have been called for. A large number of the children in our Orphans' Homes are brought there as a result of intemperance. In studying the history of the inmates of these institutions, it will be found that in many cases the parents were at one time in most promising circumstances, but on account of the gradually increasing power of strong drink exercised over them, were cut off from the fulfilment of all life's hopes and possibilities. The children, innocent themselves, robbed of their father's care by a drunkard's disgraceful death, and pining for the nurture impossible to be given by a broken-hearted, discouraged mother, call out in their helplessness against this unnatural position, and appeal to the church and state for help. To-day, in answer

to this call, thousands of Christian men and women are contributing not only of their means, but also of their life's best energies, to reclaim the offspring of these fallen ones, and fit them for the duties of sober, industrious citizenship.

Much has been accomplished by systematic work for this class of unfortunates. The cry for help strikes a responsive chord in the hearts of philanthropists. Orphans' homes and aid societies are working for the same end, the best interests of a portion of society which, according to human observation, has least in its favor. This is a work worthy of the serious attention, the prayers and support of all those who have the good of the church and the state at heart.

CHAPTER II.

THE BEGINNING OF BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME.

IN 1863 there lived in Philadelphia a German minister of the Reformed Church in the United States, Rev. Emanuel Bœhringer, who, during the earlier years of our civil war, labored as a missionary in Richmond and Norfolk, Virginia. He experienced many of the trials and hardships incident to life in the South at this time, and among other things, says, that for nineteen months he did not receive a single letter or paper from the North. Finally, however, he worked his way northward through the lines, and, already as he passed through Baltimore, calling upon his co-laborer in the ministry, the Rev. J. Kuelling, who recently died, he expressed the hope that he might be able to do something in the North to relieve and shelter some of the many children who were made orphans by the war. Shortly after arriving in Philadelphia, in November, 1862, he took charge of a German Sunday-school paper, called the *Læmmerhirte* (Shepherd of the Lambs), to whose columns he had frequently contributed. In this paper, in the February number of 1863, Pastor Bœhringer published an article about the jubilee which the Church had celebrated in the month of January of the same year, in commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary

of the Heidelberg Catechism. In that article he stated the object for which the jubilee was held, and then added: "It would also be fitting if in this year the foundation for the establishing of a Christian orphans' home could be laid. * * * We announce ourselves ready to receive small contributions from children, small and large contributions from adults, and to



REV. EMANUEL BØHRINGER,

FOUNDER OF THE HOME AND SUPERINTENDENT FOR ONE YEAR.

hand them over to the authorities of the Church in order that the establishing of an orphans' home may be speedily advanced." Pastor Bøhringer had not forgotten the good intention of helping the orphans which he had expressed some months previously in Baltimore. He was now, as editor and publisher of a paper, in a position to formulate his plans, to make

them known to the Church, and to ask for the necessary assistance. However, he did not enter upon this important work without asking the advice of a number of ministers and laymen of the Church. It appears that he made a journey through the country and unfolded his plans to the people, who received him cordially and encouraged him in his good purpose. The first response to his appeal for money was received in March, from Buffalo, N. Y. The amount was \$1.50, and the name of the contributor was Jacob Planz. This young man, now deceased, was himself an orphan, and in his youth had many hard struggles with poverty, as Dr. Kniest, now of Philadelphia, but formerly the pastor of Jacob Planz, in Buffalo, related in his address at the twenty-fourth anniversary of the Home. He had not forgotten his own early years of hardship, and when an appeal was made to the Church for help to relieve orphans in distress, he was the first to respond.

In this month, March, 1863, Pastor Bœhringer, in company with Rev. John Gantenbein, visited Rev. Wm. A. Helffrich, at Fogelsville, Lehigh county, Pa., and remained with him over night. While there, the question of establishing an orphans' home was thoroughly discussed. It was Pastor Bœhringer's intention to begin the work in a humble way, with four or five children, and he thought he could make a beginning if he had about three hundred dollars. The two brethren, Revs. John Gantenbein and Wm. A. Helffrich, each made himself responsible for one hundred dollars for this object. Pastor Bœhringer re-

joiced greatly on account of this encouragement and said, "now a beginning is made indeed."

At this time there was no Synodical Board on orphans' homes, and as it was considered desirable to have some representative body, under whose oversight this work should be carried forward, and to whom the officers of the institution would be responsible, the brethren naturally cast about at this same meeting for men suitable for the position. Rev. John Kessler, D.D., of Allentown, was unanimously selected as one, then followed the informal election of Rev. John Gantenbein, of Kreidersville, Pa.; Rev. John Kuelling, of Baltimore, Md., and others.

During the months of July and August, 1863, strong efforts were made and the preparatory work done to put the idea of starting a Home into actual operation. It was about this time, too, that it was decided to call the institution the "Orphans' Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs." This title was selected because in the paper called by that name the matter of starting an orphans' home in the Reformed Church was first successfully agitated, and because the title pointed to that great Friend of the children, the true Shepherd of the lambs, who said: "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." The *Læmmerhirte*, which at this time had a circulation of about 9,000, was made the special organ of this work.

In the August number, 1863, there appeared a "Plan for establishing an Orphans' Home," the main features of which are as follows:

"The inmates of the Home shall constitute a family.

"All persons connected with the Home shall assemble every morning and evening for family worship. The Heidelberg Catechism, the Reformed hymn-book and the liturgy shall be used. On Sunday regular services shall be held in the Home, except on occasions when the whole family attends divine worship in a neighboring church. As soon as circumstances warrant, a chapel shall be erected and a congregation formed. The children shall not be confirmed before they are fourteen years old, and then only after having attended a thorough course of instruction and given evidence of a truly Christian character.

"The family conversation shall be conducted in the German language; at the same time enough English shall be taught to make the children equally conversant in that language.

"A school shall be conducted in connection with the Home, in which all the elementary branches shall be taught; provision shall also be made for those who show special aptitude in study that they may receive special instruction in the higher branches.

"One hour or more shall be devoted each day to industrial education. If there is a farm in connection with the institution, the larger boys shall in turn be engaged in garden and farm work.

"The girls shall be instructed in household duties, such as sewing, knitting, patching, crocheting, washing, ironing, etc. Of the money realized by the children in industrial employment, one-half shall be given to the Home, the other half shall be saved for the children, and they shall receive it after their confirma-

tion. This provision is made in order to encourage them in their work.

"The discipline of the Home shall be founded on Christian love; at the same time the words of Holy Writ shall be remembered that 'whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth.' The Superintendent shall have authority to correct and discipline misbehaved children, and can also empower the teachers and other overseers to do the same.

"There shall be a committee or board of managers of the Orphans' Home. It shall consist of ministers and laymen of the Reformed Church.

"The Superintendent of the Home shall be a minister of the Reformed Church.

"The institution shall be located in a retired part of the city of Philadelphia.

"Due attention shall be paid to the cleanliness, health and physical development of the children. Children from six to thirteen years of age shall have the preference in being admitted to the Home; however, in special cases, they may be admitted under six years.

"The preference for the admission of children shall be in the following order:

"(a) Orphan children of Reformed ministers.

"(b) Orphan children of members of the Reformed Church.

"(c) Children of soldiers who were killed in the war.

"However, this order need not be followed exclusively, but he shall receive aid who deserves it.

“The name of the institution shall be: ‘*The Orphans' Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs.*’”

The first committee who had in charge this Home consisted of Rev. John Simon Kessler, D.D., of Allentown; Rev. John Gantenbein, of Kreidersville, Northampton county; Rev. John Kuelling, of Baltimore, Md., and Rev. Emanuel Bœhringer. Of these, Rev. Gantenbein is still living.

When the founding of the Home was first discussed, those whose advice was sought in the matter, and who encouraged the undertaking (there were some who did not encourage it), were of different opinions as to the method of starting. Some thought the most important thing to be done, and before the institution could be put into actual working order, would be to collect from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars, in order that the future support of the Home could be measurably guaranteed. This was not in accordance with Pastor Bœhringer's idea and plan. He saw that it was impracticable, that it would be impossible to get the people interested enough, by mere talk, to contribute such a sum of money to a new enterprise. He felt sure, however, that should he, with no money, or at least with very little in the treasury, receive children into his own home, it would be an evidence to the people and to the Church of his earnestness in the cause, and also that the desired support for enlarging the work would be forthcoming. He himself was quite poor, but having laid his hand to the plow, he would not turn back. The way, indeed, at first seemed dark to him, but he sought light and direction from Him in whose name he undertook this work. In answer to

the question, "Who was to show us the way?" he says, "For the Christian, the answer to this question was not hard to find. Christ is also in *this* the way. We look into His Gospel, and there we find the parable of the mustard seed. It teaches us the way, from the smaller to the greater; it shows us the importance of placing hope upon small beginnings in the kingdom of God; it encourages our soul when it becomes faint-hearted, and shows us the large plant which, under the sunlight and dew of heaven, comes forth from the mustard seed; it enlightens our spirit and understanding when it is helpless, and when there are no large means at hand, gives us small and insignificant ones to prompt us to carry on undertakings in the kingdom and in the name of our Heavenly Father." The lives and examples of other men, engaged in similar work, were an inspiration to Pastor Bœhringer at this time, notably the life and work of Gustav Werner, in Southern Germany, who, in the course of twenty years, founded twenty-four institutions for orphans widows and unfortunates.

There were also other men, true disciples of Christ, faithful members of the Church, whose advice encouraged Pastor Bœhringer, and whose plans concerning this institution accorded with his own. Some of these men were engaged in business, had started poor in life, had accumulated money, treading the way from the smaller to the larger, or the way of the mustard seed, a goodly share of whose wealth was to be used for the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom. Upon the help and advice of these Rev. Bœhr-

inger relied, as far as he depended upon human aid and advice, and their example he followed.

Pastor Bœhringer did not wait until a large sum of money had been collected, and a beautiful and comfortable building erected, before he began his labor of love practically. Into his own private family, while he still lived at No. 702 Morris street, Southwark, Philadelphia, he received a number of orphans. The first one to enter the Home thus opened was a little girl, Caroline Engel, six years of age; this was on the 21st of September, 1863. Thus was begun one of the first Protestant Orphans' Homes in Pennsylvania, and here soldiers' orphans were cared for at least a year before the state succeeded in founding Soldiers' Orphans' Homes.

In the "Plan for the Founding of an Orphans' Home," reference was made to the spiritual training of the children. It appears that a number of persons advised the founder to make the Home entirely independent of denominational influences, but, true to his ordination, and membership in the Reformed Church, and heeding the advice of other warm friends of the undertaking, he at once brought his work to the attention of and sought to place it under the care of this denomination. Because it did not take its origin from an act of Synod or Classis, many regarded it as an individual undertaking. It was necessary to disabuse the minds of the people of this idea, in order to get their support.

The founder regarded it as the solemn duty of every ordained minister to preach the Gospel to the poor, and to visit the widows and orphans in their

affliction. From this position the right naturally followed to take active practical steps for the relief of those in need of assistance, hence also the propriety of founding an Orphans' Home.

The Synod of the Reformed Church which met at Carlisle, in October, 1863, by a special resolution, commended the "Orphans' Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs" to the prayers and the benevolence of the people. Thus we see that the ministers and other delegates of the Church felt the importance of this work, for it was only one month after the opening of the Home that the Church officially recognized and encouraged it.

When the first child entered the Home, September 21, 1863, there was actually only \$21.50 in the treasury, with some more assistance promised. In the previous April the first contribution, \$1.50, had been received, so that in five months, during which time the founding of the Home had been more or less prominently before the church, only \$20 had been paid into the treasury. This, no doubt, proved conclusively to Pastor Bœhringer that the only way to start his home and make it a success was to start in fact, not only on paper, and to trust in God and his people for the necessary support. He was at this time a chaplain of "The Christian Commission," and the salary which he received from that position was put into the treasury of the Home. From this we learn how completely he gave up his all, in order that the Home might be started and provision made not only for his own family, but for the strangers whom he received within his gates,

and whom he considered as members of his own family. He constantly expressed his confidence in God and his fellow Christians that this work, which he had begun singly and in a small way, would be blessed of God, that it would become a means of shelter unto a large number of God's deserving children.

CHAPTER III.

THE HOME AT NO. 702 MORRIS STREET, SOUTHWARK,
PHILADELPHIA.

EARLY in 1864 there were already twelve children in the Home. Of these, eleven were born in America, and one, the youngest, in Germany. Seven were soldiers' orphans. The number increased rapidly, for in May of the same year the family numbered thirty-one children. At this time Rev. Bœhringer writes: "We might become alarmed for daily subsistence, were it not that we have already experienced in our Home the word of the Lord: 'I will never leave nor forsake thee.'"

At the time when the superintendent wrote his annual report, he looked back with longing to the family life as it existed at Southwark, when the number of orphans in the Home was only twelve, and they all, with his own children, constituted one family. Of that time he writes: "I look back with pleasure and satisfaction to the Christmas season of 1863, when the twelve orphans, with my own five children, together with their father and mother, formed one family, whose number was not so large as to blot out the true family picture. All lived congenially together, and even the more precious experiences of the true family life were not wanting; as, for instance, the youngest child in the Home, one of my own, a sprightly

little girl, beloved by all, would not be denied the privilege of accompanying the Superintendent to the bed chamber of the orphans, and calling to the adopted brothers and sisters, 'Good night! good night!' whereupon the echo from twelve orphans would come back, 'Good night! good night!'



702 MORRIS STREET,
PHILADELPHIA.

The number of inmates soon increased so much that the true family system could not be naturally followed. Supt. Bœhringer himself had several children, and it is marvelous how, in an ordinary tenement house, besides his own family, he could find accommodations for so many orphans. It is true, they lived together as one family, ate at the same table and had family prayers together, but they did not all sleep in the same building. In a house on McIlvain street, where the school was kept at the time, a sleeping room had been prepared for the larger boys. But this fact is not the only remarkable circumstance in connection with the early history of this Home. This institution was, as so many others of its kind have been, a work of faith. It was started and rapidly carried forward with very little material means at hand for its support. The sainted founder had such faith and confidence in the word of the Lord

that, as the Heidelberg Catechism expresses it, he was sure "God would provide him with all things necessary for soul and body." The family of thirty children lived from "hand to mouth, depending upon the charitable gifts which were extended to the cause in faith and love, according to the command of the Chief Shepherd, the beloved Saviour." The doors of the Home were open to the needy ones, and they were admitted even at the sacrifice of the comfort of those already in the institution. But Pastor Bœhringer always looked forward in hope to the time when this large number, and even more, could be properly taken care of, by being divided into families of about twelve persons, each family to have a separate building and a separate house-father, overseer or matron, and yet all to be under one general Superintendent.

This was the system in vogue at the large orphanage—the Rauhe Haus—of which the noted Doctor Wichern was the head, near Hamburg, in Germany. as well as other similar institutions in Europe. Pastor Bœhringer also hoped that after this system was once regularly adopted in his Home, certain individuals would take special interest in one or the other of the particular families, become their patrons, and so largely help to support the Home. These ideas were derived from German examples to which he, being a German, naturally looked. There is no doubt that, were the German plan now more generally adopted and consistently carried out, the orphans' homes of our land would be even more successful than they are.

English and German were taught in the school.

The Superintendent laid much stress upon instilling into the hearts and minds of the children the spirit of a proper respect for authority. Obedience to teachers and others in authority was required. Corporal punishment was used and was, no doubt, necessary at times, considering the class of children gathered then, as now, in public institutions of this kind. It is true, some of the best behaved, most obedient and exemplary children are placed into orphans' homes, but it is just as frequently the case that, for such, places can readily be found and are found with relatives and other private families, while those who are disobedient and troublesome are put into orphans' homes, even at times when relatives would be amply able to support them.

The discipline was grounded in the love of Christ. There is, however, such a thing as sentimental love, and practical or real love. The former would pity and bemoan the conduct of an incorrigible boy or girl, but would not so much as touch such an one, for correction, with the weight of a finger, because of the sentimental objection to corporal punishment, even though it were evident that a boy or girl would be entirely spoiled by that kind of treatment.

In the public schools the "hands-off" system of discipline can be successfully carried out. If there a pupil does not obey, send him home. But where send a boy or girl who has no home? You cannot turn them out into the street, simply for the sake of a sentiment. The true parent will study and know the indi-

vidual traits and dispositions of every member of his family, and, if wise, will govern them accordingly. The faithful superintendent of an orphans' home will do likewise. He will study his family and in doing so will find that he has some children whom he would utterly spoil by subjecting them to corporal punishment; he will know that there are other ways of maintaining discipline, just as effective in most cases, and less likely to injure the child, but there are instances in which, beyond a doubt, putting sentiment aside, a reasonable application of the remedy of our forefathers is the best that can be applied. A due regard for the authority of those placed over children should in a kind, but firm manner, be instilled into the hearts of the young, for by so doing a good service is rendered both to church and state, and above all, to the children themselves.

The Bible was the book holding the highest place of honor in the Home, and next to this was the Heidelberg Catechism. Family worship was regularly held.

Many trials, as may well be supposed, were experienced by Rev. Boehringer and his wife during the first year of the history of the Home, trials of which we can now know nothing. But encouragement and assistance also came from many sources. From the City of Brotherly Love, from various parts of Pennsylvania, and even from the missionary fields of Iowa and Wisconsin, contributions came. "The rich merchant and manufacturer, and the well-to-do farmer, opened their treasures and gave of their substance. The widow contributed her mite. The soldier in the camp and on

the battlefield remembered the orphan of his fallen comrade. The doctors of theology and of philosophy, and the ministers of the Gospel, in private and in public, bore on their hearts the Orphans' Home. The boys, after the regular duties of the day were done, worked at making brooms and shoes, in order that they might earn a dollar to send to this institution."

In accordance with the original plan of the Home, soldiers' orphans were admitted. At the end of the first year, these constituted about two-thirds of the whole number of children in the institution. However, it was not formally recognized and supported by the State until January 9, 1865. Its first admission at the expense of the State occurred January 11th. The whole number of soldiers' orphans cared for by this Home was 127.

CHAPTER IV.

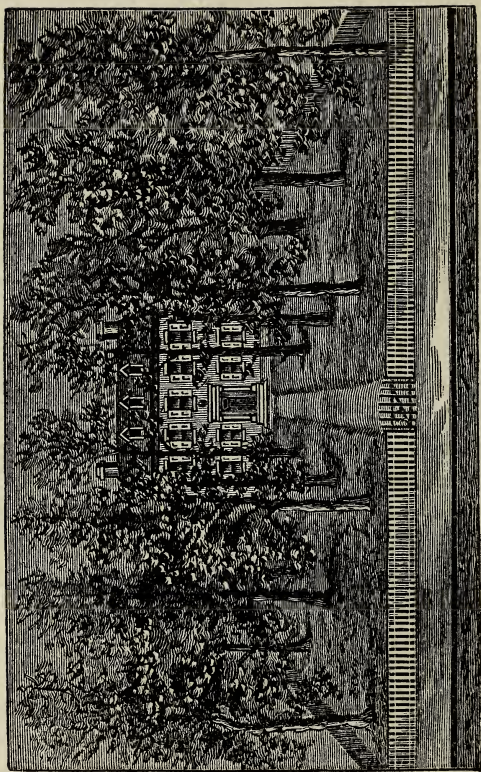
REMOVAL TO BRIDESBURG—DEATH OF MRS. REV. BÖHRINGER—FIRST ANNIVERSARY—DEATH OF REV. EMANUEL BÖHRINGER.

THE Home did not long remain at Southwark. Early in the summer of 1864 steps were taken and money solicited for the purchase of a property suitable for an institution, such as it was proposed to make this Orphans' Home. In May, of the same year, the following appeared in the *Læmmerhirte*: "A property has now been purchased for the Orphans' Home, in Bridesburg, a suburb of Philadelphia, which will shortly be occupied by the Home family. It consists of a building lot 200 feet wide by 300 feet deep, on which is an old house and a small frame building." The purchase price was \$5,500. One thousand dollars of this amount was to be paid cash, and five hundred dollars was subscribed by the real estate company from which the property was purchased. How to raise the money needed to pay off this debt, besides making necessary improvements and alterations (for the buildings on the ground were not adapted or sufficient for all purposes), and at the same time to provide for the constantly increasing family, became a serious problem.

To raise the amount of \$5,000, a friend of the cause

proposed that one hundred persons subscribe \$50 each, and he started the subscription with that amount. The congregation of which he was a member likewise subscribed this amount. Whether this plan was successfully carried out to the end, we are not told; however, in different numbers of the *Læmmerhirte* the following names appear, each having subscribed the above sum towards this object, and principally through the solicitations of the Rev. John Gantenbein: Emanuel's congregation, Philadelphia; H. Gabriel, Joseph Young, Aaron Renninger, Mrs. Sarah Kern, Mosser & Keck, and Samuel McHose, all of Allentown; L. K. Derr, of Tamaqua; Chas. Schnell, Isaac McHose, Rev. B. Bausman, Mrs. M. M. Hunter and D. S. Hunter, of Reading; George Snyder and Stichter & Hoffman, of Pottsville; a lady friend from Schuylkill county; Judge Joseph Laubach, of Northampton county, and David Thomas, of Catasauqua.

There were, no doubt, still others who contributed like sums, but we have at present no means of ascertaining the names of such. This money, as already stated, was subscribed to pay for the property. Now Pastor Bœhringer proposed a plan to raise money for the erection of a new building. He would put into operation his previously formed plan for his Orphans' Home, viz., instead of having one building in which from fifty to one hundred or more children could be accommodated, to have a number of smaller houses, each containing about a dozen children, in charge of an overseer, and each house or family to be known by a particular name. The old house already on the



BRIDESBURG HOME.

ground was to be used for one such family, to be known as the "Family of the Shepherd of the Lambs." A new house was to be built for the "Family of the Sunday Schools," provided Pastor Bøehringer's plan would be successful. He proposed that the Sunday-schools should make a general effort to raise the necessary funds for this purpose, and thus to make this house a memorial to the Sunday-schools of the Reformed Church. The Sunday-school of Zion's Reformed church, of Philadelphia, Pastor Gehr, was the first to contribute toward this object, the original amount being \$20.66. This amount was afterward increased.

On July 13, 1864, the Orphans' Home family was removed from Southwark to Bridesburg. The buildings at Bridesburg, which had been purchased for the Home, were at this time occupied by three families, and as their leases had not expired, Pastor Boehringer was obliged to make certain financial sacrifices in order to gain possession of the property. This was considered necessary in view of the overcrowded condition of the quarters at Southwark. Shortly after the removal to Bridesburg, the family numbered thirty-six children, and in September, one year after the opening of the Home, this number had increased to nearly fifty.

The first improvement made at Bridesburg was the building of a large kitchen, and shortly after that a new building, thirty by forty feet, and three stories high, was begun. For this there was great need, in order that the family might be properly housed.

In September, notice was given in the papers that the first anniversary of the Home would be celebrated on the 13th of October following, and that at the same time the house at Bridesburg would be dedicated with appropriate services. To this dedication the Superintendent earnestly invited all the friends of the Home.

Before this event took place, however, Pastor Bøhringer and his family, as well as the large family of orphan children, were destined to suffer a heavy affliction in the death of Mrs. Bøhringer, who had been a faithful and earnest helpmate to him, upon whom the burden of this responsible work rested.

The following obituary appeared in the *Læmmerhirte*, October 15, 1864:

"Christina Bøhringer, wife of Rev. Emanuel Bøhringer, died of jaundice, on the 21st of September, 1864, in the Orphans' Home at Bridesburg, Philadelphia, aged 32 years, 9 months and 3 days. Six small children, of which the smallest is scarcely six weeks old, as well as forty-seven orphans, to whom she was a mother, wept at her grave. Great is the loss to the immediate family, as well as to that of the entire Home. The Lord has laid upon us a burden, but He will no doubt help to bear it according to His Word.

"The death of Mrs. Bøhringer occurred just one year after the opening of the Home. On September 21, 1863, Carolina Engel, a little girl six years of age, was admitted into the private home over which Mrs. Bøhringer presided, and September 21, 1864, she died, leaving her own family and a family of forty-seven orphans to mourn her departure.

"Rev. J. G. Neuber preached the funeral sermon, full of comfort for the stricken family, based on Isaiah 55: 8, 9: 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

The orphan children sang at the grave and the choir of Bethlehem congregation, of Philadelphia, comforted the afflicted, at the burial service, with sacred music. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery of the Evangelical Reformed Emanuel's congregation, in Bridesburg.

The Home at Bridesburg was dedicated with appropriate religious services on the 13th of October, 1864, and at the same time the first anniversary was celebrated, at which time a highly interesting report, prepared by Superintendent Bœhringer, was read by one of the visiting clergymen. Pastor Bœhringer on this occasion already felt so sick that he could not read his report himself; he retired from the festival, in the midst of the exercises, took to his bed and died twelve days afterward.

At the celebration the opening sermon was preached by the Rev. John Gantenbein, in the German language, based upon Matthew vi. 33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

The sermon was preached at half past ten in the morning, in the Emanuel's church, Bridesburg. After the sermon, the congregation assembled in front of the Orphans' Home building, where Rev. J. S. Kessler, D.D., conducted the dedicatory services in the following order, all in the German language:

An address by Dr. Kessler, taking for his text Rev. 21st chapter, 3d verse, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."

"Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

Hymn No. 24, 1-4.

Prayer.

Reading of the following passages of Scripture: Ex. 22: 22-24; Deut. 24: 17; Deut. 10: 18; Ps. 68: 6; Ps. 82: 3; John 1: 17; Ps. 146: 9; Matt. 10: 42; Matt. 25: 40-45; James 1: 17.

"Beloved in the Lord: In these and similar passages God declares himself to be the protector of the poor in general, and of the widows and orphans in particular. Whatever of good, therefore, is done in this and other similar orphans' institutions in faith and in love, according to His will, will surely enjoy His blessing sooner or later."

Apostles' Creed.

"This institution is founded upon this fundamental doctrine of faith; upon this foundation shall it be continued, and may God add His help thereto. Amen."

Hymn No. 24, 5-7.

Act of dedication:

"Christian friends of the orphans! This Orphans' Home is founded for the glory of God, and for the upbuilding of the temporal and eternal welfare of those who have already been received, and who shall hereafter be received into it. It shall bear the name, 'The Orphans' Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs,' and by this name do we dedicate it to the Triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. We add the humble and sincere petition that Almighty God may spread His protecting wing over this institution, as He did over Noah's Ark and over the Ark of the Cove-

nant of His people Israel; and that the Superintendent of the Orphans' Home may always be a man after God's own heart, who will bring up those entrusted to his care to become Sheep of His pasture. May the blessing of God rest upon this our act, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen."

Prayer.

Hymn No. 317, 1-2.

After these regular services of the dedication were concluded, the congregation partook of a dinner, and then returned to the church, where the annual report of the Superintendent was read by Rev. John Gantenbein. In this report the following statement concerning the finances of the Home during this year appeared: \$5,080.91 were received. \$810 were received as a loan without being solicited. Expended, \$5,445.81, leaving a balance of \$445.10. Of the amount expended, \$1,428.43 were used to repair the old building, to build a kitchen, and towards erecting the new brick house.

The early anniversaries were attended by very few people, mostly from Bridesburg and Philadelphia, the latter coming on one-horse street cars.

DEATH OF REV. EMANUEL BÖHRINGER.

The founder of the oldest orphans' home of the Reformed Church in the United States died October 25, 1864, of nervous fever. In regard to this event, his successor, as Superintendent of the Home, writes substantially as follows, in the *Læmmerhirte*:

Job's News, or Sad Information.

"We name this death notice, which we are called upon in grief to bring to the friends of the Orphans'

Home, Job's news, because it follows so suddenly that which was given in the last number of the *Læmmerhirte*, and because we firmly believe that it is not for the destruction of the Orphans' Home, but that it is brought upon us to prove our faith and to glorify God.

"The hand that wrote the obituary notice in the last number is now cold in death, and the eye that looked into the early grave of his faithful wife is broken. 'None of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.'

"At four o'clock on the morning of October 25th, 1864, scarcely five weeks after the death of his wife, Rev. Emanuel Bœhringer died. He was a minister of the Reformed Church, Superintendent and founder of our Orphans' Home, editor of the *Læmmerhirte*, father of six children and the foster-father of forty-seven orphans.

"The departed was born on the 29th of May, 1823, in Burgach, near Stuttgart, in the kingdom of Württemberg. He came to America in 1858, was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Philadelphia Classis, in the spring of 1859, and in the same year was ordained to the holy ministry by Maryland Classis, in Norfolk, Va. Whereupon he labored as a missionary in Norfolk and Richmond, Va., until the autumn of 1862, at which time, on account of the war, he left his field of labor and returned to Philadelphia. * * * In starting an orphans' home, the beloved brother ventured much and took upon himself great responsibilities. All this rested heavily upon him, and much heavier still, upon the deeply sensitive man, fell the death of his wife. Already on the eve of the first anniversary, which was held on the 13th of October, he complained of not feeling well. On the day of the anniversary, he attended the opening services, but before the Home was

dedicated, he retired to his bed, which also proved his death bed. In the start, his complaint was bilious fever, which afterwards developed into nervous fever. As he lay upon his sick-bed, he was often heard to pray, thinking that he was alone. In answer to the question, what was to become of his children in case he should die, he replied, 'let them remain in the Orphans' Home', and then 'commit them to the Lord.' At last his sister, who had been with him since the death of his wife, asked whether he now wanted to go to his Saviour, which he answered with an emphatic 'Yes.' His aged mother then placed her hand upon his forehead, whereupon he lifted his eyes towards heaven and expired.

"His burial took place the following Friday afternoon. It was an affecting scene, as the whole company of orphans, to whom he had been a father, his own children, then his sister and last of all his aged mother stooped down and kissed his cold forehead. Rev. John Kuelling, of Baltimore, preached the funeral sermon, taking for his text the same words from which Rev. J. G. Neuber had preached the sermon at the funeral of Mrs. Boehringer, five weeks before, Isaiah 55: 8, 9. After the sermon, Rev. J. G. Wiehle delivered an address, full of comforting words, directed especially to the mother and sister of the departed. Other ministers took part in the services and Rev. John Gantenbein conducted the ceremony at the grave."

Thus closed, in early life, the earthly labors of one of God's chosen servants. Truly of him it may be said: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; *and their works do follow them.*" Rev. 14: 13. This was a severe blow to the young

institution which had its origin in the mind, in the love, in the activity of him who was so early in his work called to his reward. The work which he was instrumental in starting was of the Lord's planting, and it has continued unto this day. The writings of Rev. Bœhringer are replete with Scripture passages, and his life, as we now study it, is an illustration of the words of St. Paul: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." The opportunity to do good for the orphans of the Church came to him, and he immediately began his labor of love. Had he postponed his work for a year, thinking that then a beginning might just as well be made, this institution, now so dear to the Church, might not have been started; humanly speaking, it certainly would not have been by him, for in one year from the day of the opening of the Home, Mrs. Bœhringer died, and five weeks later her husband followed her to the grave.

Pastor and Mrs. Bœhringer were buried in the cemetery of Emanuel's Reformed church, of Bridesburg. Their graves remained unmarked for some time. This fact having been brought to the attention of the Board of Managers of the Home, at a meeting held on the 21st day of July, 1869, it was "Resolved, that those members of the Board residing in Philadelphia be instructed to have suitable tombstones erected over the graves of Mr. and Mrs. Bœhringer." The expenses were paid by private contributions.

The six children of Pastor Bœhringer were nurtured in the Home until they were able to provide for them-

selves, or good places were secured for them elsewhere; and for many years Mother Bœhringer was tenderly cared for in the institution founded by her son, but the last year of her life she spent with her daughter in Portsmouth, Va., where she died in April, 1873.

CHAPTER V.

THE HOME AT BRIDESBURG—REV. JOHN GANTENBEIN
SUPERINTENDENT—ELECTION OF D. Y. HEIS-
LER—SECURING CHARTER—B. BAUSMAN
PRESIDENT BOARD OF MANAGERS.

AT a meeting of the Board of Managers, held shortly after the death of Superintendent Bœhringer, Rev. J. S. Kessler, of Allentown, was elected President of that body, and Rev. John Gantenbein was elected Secretary, Treasurer and Superintendent of the Home.

On the 20th of December, 1864, Doctor Kessler, the first regular President of the Board, died. The early fortunes of this institution were tried as by fire. In a period of a little more than one year after its start, three of the persons most directly interested in its welfare were removed by death. Notwithstanding that the Home did not yet have that hold upon the Church which it attained in later years, there were always persons ready to take the places of those who were called away; friends of the cause were not wanting, and, though the prospects were at times discouraging, the Lord tenderly guarded this child of faith and made it strong through its early trials.

That Pastor Bœhringer was stricken down in the midst of manifold cares and active work at Bridesburg, is evident from the following article, which appeared in the *Læmmerhirte*, shortly after his death, written by his successor in office:

“What is now necessary, after the death of both parents of this family, is a Superintendent. A presiding head is absolutely necessary to the active life of such an institution. Piles of letters, accounts, applications and similar papers awaited a hand with authority to act upon them. The plasterers and carpenters



REV. JOHN GANTENBEIN,
SUPERINTENDENT ONE YEAR AND NINE MONTHS.

were at work on the new building, and desired to know what would now be done. The *Læmmerhirte* had to be gotten ready for the press, and, as the machinery for the manufacture of envelopes was already in position, steps were to be taken to give industrial employment to the children. This work could not be delayed,

and so the writer, with the concurrence of the Board of Managers, decided to take upon his shoulders the duties which Pastor Bøhringer, as editor of the *Læmmerhirte* and Superintendent of the Orphans' Home, had left."

On January 17, 1865, Mr. William D. Gross, having previously been elected a member of the Board, was elected Treasurer of the Home, which position he held to the end of his life, a period of about twenty-one years, during which time he rendered invaluable service to the institution. At the same meeting, Rev. B. Bausman, of Reading, and Mr. Nicholas Wetzel, of Philadelphia, were elected members of the Board. That was forty-two years ago. Rev. Dr. Bausman is still an active member, having all this time had the best interests of the Home and its inmates at heart, and in this capacity doing much blessed service for the Master.

At this meeting also a draft of a charter was adopted, which was afterwards granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, the main features of which are as follows:

"The object of the institution shall be 'for the purpose of providing for orphan, friendless and destitute children, without reference to the place of their birth or the creed of their parents, and to educate them to lead industrious, moral and religious lives, and to prepare grown-up young persons as teachers and overseers for the work of educational charity.'

"The name of the corporation shall be 'The Orphans' Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs' [in 1873 the title of the institution was changed, by an order of the court, to 'Bethany Orphans' Home'], and as such it

shall have the right to have a common seal, and to do all lawful business as a corporation.

"The affairs of the Home shall be conducted by a Board of Managers, composed of not more than seven members. [In 1867 this number was, by act of the Legislature, increased to thirteen.] This Board shall have power to elect new members (in case of vacancy), to expel any for misconduct or neglect of duty, and to receive and act upon the resignation of any. The members of this Board shall be communicant male members of the German Reformed Church, and shall be able to speak and read the German language. The Board shall have power to appoint a Superintendent of the Institution, and other officers of the Board and the corporation.

"This corporation shall stand in auxiliary relation to the General Board of Directors of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States of America, appointed by the Synod to supervise the interests of providing Christian homes for poor orphan children, to which it shall annually submit a report of its operations; but this corporation shall, nevertheless, be under the immediate management of its own Board, in all respects as to the particular internal affairs of said institution.

"The Superintendent shall be elected by the Board of Managers and hold his office in like manner as ministers of the German Reformed Church are elected by and hold their offices under their congregations. He shall be a minister of the German Reformed Church, if possible, and a member of the Board of Managers. He must be conversant at least equally well with the German as with the English language. He shall have power to select assistants as they are needed in every branch of the institution.

"The Board may receive children under its care in either of the following modes: Children who shall be

voluntarily surrendered by their father, or in case of his death or absence, by their mother, or by their guardian, or by the overseers of the poor of any borough, city, town or county of the United States, or by the next friend of destitute orphan children, in case they shall have no surviving parent or guardian.

"The Board shall have charge over the children during their minority, and shall educate them, and shall also have the power to bind them out during their minority to learn reputable trades.

"Any contributor who pays into the treasury \$1,000 as a single benefaction, has the right to nominate and send to the Home one child. Any church or society has the same right, and any church, school or benevolent society which shall make an annual contribution for the benefit of this institution amounting to the sum of one hundred dollars, shall have the right to keep a child in the Home."

This charter was approved by Gov. A. G. Curtin, February 17, 1865.

At a meeting of the Board of Managers, held on the 9th of March, 1865, Rev. B. Bausman, of Reading, Pa., was elected President of the Board, which position he holds to this day. And as President, his name has been actively identified with every forward movement in this important work of the Church.

At this meeting, the Superintendent, Rev. J. Gan-tenbein, presented a report of the financial condition of the Home, from which it appeared that the Board, as then constituted, had to assume a debt of \$12,000. A direct and earnest appeal to the Church for relief and for the support of this holy cause was issued. At this time there were seventy children in the Home.

After having been Superintendent for a period of about one year and nine months, Rev. John Gantenbein was succeeded in that office, August 30, 1866 by Rev. D. Y. Heisler, a minister of the Reformed Church and at the time of his election, stationed at Bethlehem,



REV. D. Y. HEISLER,
SUPERINTENDENT FOR TWO YEARS AND THREE MONTHS.

Pa. He and his congregation had been earnest and liberal supporters of the Home from the very beginning.

In January, 1867, the number of orphans was ninety-five. At this time there were one German and two

English teachers in the Home. According to an estimate made, it required about \$1,000 a month to meet the expenses of the institution. It was in this year that the Board of Managers, feeling the great responsibility of their work, and recognizing the importance of having the various sections of the Church, and especially influential laymen, directly interested in the management of the Home, made application to the Legislature to have a supplement to the original charter passed, asking for an increase in the number of members of the Board, from seven to thirteen. This supplement was approved by Governor Geary, April 2, 1867.

While the Home was at Bridesburg, it was occasionally reduced to very straightened circumstances. At various times, individuals were engaged in canvassing the congregations in the vicinity of Philadelphia for provisions, in order that the family might be properly provided for.

CHAPTER VI.

PURCHASE OF NEW PROPERTY AND REMOVAL TO WOMELSDORF.

THE question of the proper location of this Orphans' Home was not finally solved with its removal to Bridesburg. As the quarters at Southwark were too limited for the rapidly growing institution in its infancy, so it was now found that, after nearly three years of growth and activity at Bridesburg, it was necessary again to transplant it. Much money had been spent upon the property, the friends had watched over it, had prayed for it, and had hoped at one time that it might remain in this suburb of Philadelphia. But it was found that the location was unhealthy. many of the children and employees being afflicted with chills and fever during a large part of the year. The buildings were poorly adapted to its wants, and there being only about two and a half acres of land belonging to this institution, the Board could not provide the proper employment for the larger boys. Thus, taking all things into consideration, it was decided to remove the family to a more desirable place.

When it became known that the Church desired a new location for its Orphans' Home, numerous properties were offered for sale for this purpose. The Board of Managers, either as a body or through its committees, visited and viewed proposed sites at the following

places: The homestead and farm of Hon. Judge Krauss, near Norristown, Pa., a farm near Allentown, Pa., a farm near Lyons, Pa., two farms near Sinking Spring, Pa., and a tract of seventy acres of wooded mountain land, at Moselem, Berks county, Pa., offered as a gift by Mr. Nicholas Hunter, proprietor of the Moselem furnaces, upon condition that the Home be located there. Finally, having heard that the property used as a summer resort, and known as the Manderbach Springs, at the foot of the South Mountain, near Womelsdorf, Pa., was for sale, the Board met at this place, June 27, 1867, with a view of purchasing it, if in their judgment they considered it desirable for such a purpose.

This was a memorable meeting in the history of the Home. The following members of the Board of Managers were present: Rev. B. Bausman, President; Rev. D. Y. Heisler, Rev. Chas. H. Leinbach, Rev. P. S. Fisher, Joseph Laubach, David Schall, Joseph Coblentz, Adam Leiss, Isaac McHose, John Wiest, George Gelbach and N. Wetzel. Two of these are still living.

After viewing the property, the members of the Board met in the building to take action. The price asked was \$34,000, with the promise of the proprietor of a subscription of \$1,000 to the Home in case the Board decided to take it at that figure. What was to be done? The Home must be removed from Bridesburg, and this, in the judgment of the Board, was the place best suited for its location. Here was pure air, an abundance of the best mountain spring water, a large brick building, considered as well adapted for all

the purposes of an orphans' home. Moreover, the property was near enough to the railroad for necessary communication with the outside world.

At this time the Board did not have \$50 on hand, and where were the \$33,000 to come from? Nothing could be realized from the Bridesburg property. It was taken by Mr. George Gelbach for its debt, to save the institution from further embarrassment. (This generous act occasioned him a loss of from \$500 to \$1,000.)

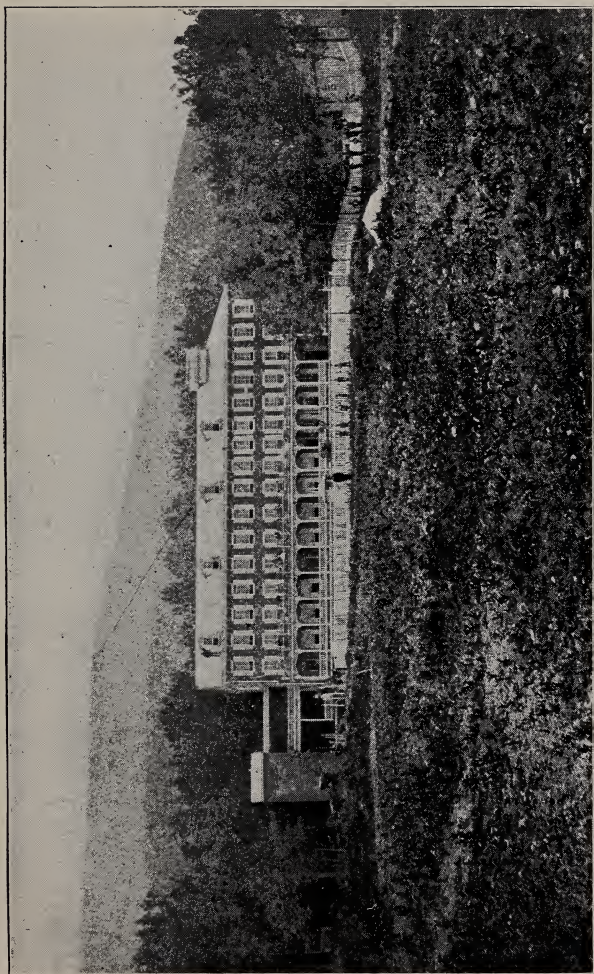
The spirit and faith of the founder of the Home, the principle of the mustard seed, took possession of these faithful men, and depending upon God's promises and the interest of the Church in this work, it was decided to buy the property. This action at once infused new life and interest into the Board itself, and then one of the members, feeling that "God helps them who help themselves," proposed that every member of the Board contribute \$1,000 towards paying the sum of \$33,000, and that no member be excused from this obligation, except those who felt themselves unable to pay this amount. This motion prevailed and its import was faithfully carried out. Seven of the thirteen members gave \$1,000 each, and each of the rest a smaller yet, relatively, a liberal sum. The members of the Board realized that, in order to get the Church sufficiently interested in this work, to pay for this property, it was necessary for them to do something more than simply to give their time and the benefit of their experience to its management, invaluable at that was. These large contributions inspired

confidence in the enterprise and enabled the Board to challenge successfully the sympathy and support of the Church.

The property at this time consisted of a three-story brick building, 120 feet long and 28 feet deep, with convenient out-buildings, 26 acres and 65 perches of land, of which more than half was under cultivation. To this place the Orphans' Home family, numbering in all, at the time, about 110 persons, was removed on the first day of October, 1867. An account of the principal incidents of this day is best given in the words of Rev. D. Y. Heisler, who was Superintendent at the time, in a letter written to Rev. D. B. Albright, in January, 1879:

EASTON, PA., January 23, 1879.

Dear Brother: I have just received your note of inquiry, and in reply. I will give you a kind of transcript of my remaining impression of that day—the day of the Home's removal from Bridesburg to Womelsdorf. Having done up the work of packing, as far as possible, during the several weeks immediately preceding the “flitting” we bedded the children on the floor the last night of our stay with such things as we could easily and speedily pack up, also prepared the food we needed for their breakfast, except getting the coffee. We got them out of bed early, dressed them, and gave them their breakfast, so as to get them ready to leave in the street cars at six o'clock in the morning, for the Philadelphia and Reading Depot. In the meantime, the remainder of the goods were being packed by several of the hands and gotten ready for the freight train. Two passengers cars and quite a number, four or five, freight cars were gratuitously furnished us, through the generosity of Mr. Smith, at that time President of the



ORIGINAL HOME AT WOMELSDORF.

P. & R. R. R. Company, he having ordered the money, which I had already paid, to be refunded on his recovery from a spell of sickness, which had prevented him from attending to my application for some reduction in the fare of the children and other inmates of the Home. This kind and generous act saved us several hundred dollars and prepared us to commence our transit in a very comfortable state of mind. We also got along quite well and without any accident, both on the street cars and on the regular train, and reached Reading, if I remember correctly, about noon or a little after. Then we were joined by some friends, who accompanied us to Womelsdorf, where others were already engaged in getting up a well-prepared meal. When we reached the Home, a short address of welcome was extended to us by the President of the Board, if I do not mistake, to which I made a short reply, in the presence of the people who had come there to witness our arrival. After the speeches, we entered the Home and enjoyed the good things prepared for us.

After the collation, we went to work vigorously to get up the beds for the children and make such arrangements as appeared necessary for the accommodation and comfort of those concerned; and as a necessary and welcome *finale* to the labor and worry and excitement, we enjoyed a good, sound sleep, which, I have no doubt, you will as readily believe as any part of this story.

Yours, etc.,

D. Y. HEISLER.

We are told that at some of the stations along the railroad friends of the orphans and of the Home greeted them as the train passed by. At the Womelsdorf station, teacher Robert Lyttle formed the orphans into a procession, and then, led by the Board of Managers and by the Womelsdorf band, they proceeded to

their new home. There they were welcomed by from two to three hundred people, who had come from various places.

Before entering the building, the orphans sang a hymn, entitled, "Our Dear Mountain Home," in front of the main steps. Here also the President of the Board and the Superintendent addressed the orphans and the assembled people. Rev. B. Bausman, in the name of the Board, thanked the people for their kind reception, stating that, "we have come to live among you, and we hope to be good neighbors, as your friendly presence gives us assurance that you will be to us."

On the day of the moving, Mr. G. A. Nicolls, Superintendent of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company, sent to Dr. Bausman, the President of the Board of Managers of the Home, a check for \$50.00, together with a note, congratulating him on bringing the institution to Womelsdorf.

CHAPTER VII.

DEDICATION OF THE HOME AT WOMELSDORF—HISTORICAL ADDRESS BY REV. C. Z. WEISER.

THE Home at Womelsdorf was dedicated with appropriate religious services on the 29th of October, 1867. Although the weather was unfavorable the day being dark, dreary, with violent rain storms prevailing, still the chapel was filled with people, who had come from far and near to attend the ceremonies. The religious services began at 1 P. M. Rev. George Wolff opened with prayer. After the singing of a hymn by the children, the Rev. J. W. Nevin, D.D., of Lancaster, performed the dedication act. Revs. A. S. Leinbach and D. B. Schneck* delivered addresses in the German language, and Revs. J. W. Nevin, D.D., and C. Z. Weiser in the English language. The address delivered by Rev. C. Z. Weiser was afterwards, by request of the Board of Managers, published in the *Guardian*, a monthly periodical of the Reformed Church. The address is found in the December issue for 1867. We here give about one-half of it, as being of much historical interest in this connection, especially so, since the Home is located on ground which belonged to the original "Conrad Weiser Tract."

*The official records give the name as D. B. Schneck. It should probably be B. S. Schneck.

A HOME FOR THE FATHERLESS.

“Let me here relate *the history of these charity grounds*. These charity grounds have a history, and why may we not know it, since this Home will likewise pass into history to-day! God is the original proprietor of all lands. ‘The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof.’ Who can tell the number of ages during which these grounds lay as virgin soil? How long was this region wild waste and untrodden by man? These acres, farms, mountains, valleys—this now richly cultivated and thickly peopled territory was once a wilderness. But a wilderness is not a void or a desert. Birds sang here, beasts echoed their cries through the forests, flowers bloomed, the waters rushed musically downward in their channels, and the sun shone. It was a natural theatre for God’s creatures to roam in, and He knew and understood their tributes of praise.

“This is all that we can tell you of the primitive era of these grounds.

“But the fiat had gone forth during the infancy of time and the race already, that man should fill the earth and subdue it. In order to the realization of this precept, power was given him over the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea. And although ‘God created of one blood all nations of men, for to dwell on all the face of the earth,’ yet, it is also added, that He had appointed ‘the bounds of their habitation.’

“Accordingly the Aborigines, the Indians or red men, possessed themselves of this territory. The

'Six Nations'—the *Tsanandowans*, *Onondagoes*, *Gan-gingoes*, *Cayoogoes*, *Oneidas* and *Tuscarores*—also called *Mingoes*—roamed here. Then the wilderness became a hunting ground. Wigwams rose over these acres. The cry of wild beasts was drowned in the song of still wilder men. Their gambols gave way to the dance. The savage animals were supplanted by still more savage men. The flying fowl was quivered by swifter flying arrows. This vast unbroken and untrodden region God gave to His dusky children. He allotted them a 'local habitation,' and they gave it the name *Tulpehocken*. As such the grounds were known and are still known, though the Aborigines have long since passed away.

"Here let us close the history of the second era. Another epoch opens, and *William Penn*—Brother Onas, as the Indian tongue relates—the founder of the Commonwealth, comes upon the stage and possesses himself of these lands. And if history, into which he has immortally passed, be gospel, we may pride ourselves on account of the honesty and fair dealing of our colonial governor. His advent is dated A. D. 1682. Now it is no longer a wild forest, nor the red men's forest, but 'Penn's Forest.' But the Indians were tenacious in lingering about these acres. In 1728 even we find them desirous to retain them. Accordingly, a petition, subscribed to by fifteen Palatines and 'Natives of Germany,' pray his Excellency, William Keith, to free them from the demands of the Indians, who still laid claim to 'the Tulpehocken Lands,' and had pretended to claim it from their ar-

rival on this soil from the Palatinate, fifteen years ago, in 1713. But Japheth had received the promise that he should dwell in the tents of Shem, and here is one theatre of its fulfillment.

"We move forward another step. Thomas Penn donated a large area of this territory to Conrad Weiser, in 1729—the friend of Penn and the friend of Shem alike. The Indians called him *Tarachanagon*. By this grant of the governor, he took to himself acres, extending miles and leagues over mountains and valleys, up to and beyond the shores of the Susquehanna. He was 'monarch of all he surveyed,' and we have a lurking suspicion that he did not *survey* very accurately! At all events, a legend relates that an Indian chief and Tarachanagon would dream for a wager at times. The chief dreamed that his white brother had given him a musket. Of course the musket was given. Then Conrad had a dream, which was that the chief had granted him so many acres of forest. The chief was honorable enough to make it a reality. But finding that a white man could dream faster than the red man, the latter entered into a contract with the former not to dream any more. But all men are mortal—white as well as red—and Conrad Weiser died, and his tomb is on his own ground near us to-day.

"His children inherited the paternal estate. But they, too, followed their father to the grave. Three sons of the following generation shared these acres—Philip, Conrad and Jabez. Philip was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, and was carried on a litter by six men to Tulpehocken, where he lingered and died.

The two remaining brothers became the sole owners. But as with Abraham and Lot, strife arose—not between their herdsmen, but between themselves. The sun rose and set upon their wrath. Now a spring gushed forth copious waters from the homestead of one brother, whose outlet and channel crossed the fields of the other. The owner built a wall around it and a dwelling over it. He gladly drank of its waters. It turned a mill. He prized his farm because of the spring. But strife embittered all of his possessions, and he resolved to part with his lands—spring and all. Soon a purchaser was found. When the day of delivery came, the stranger spoke these words: ‘Your brother informs me that the channel of yonder spring lies over his land, and that he intends to obstruct its passage and change its course. I cannot, therefore agree to pay so large a price.’ The owner was startled, and immediately suspected a collusion between the buyer and the brother. ‘What shall I do?’ exclaimed the unhappy man; ‘I have bought another homestead on which a part is paid, and I cannot forfeit that!’ As rogues are very accommodating, the stranger replied: ‘I will still take the farm, if you will deduct five hundred pounds.’ Now five hundred pounds was no trifle in those days—it is an item to be considered yet. After much anxiety, he consented, deducted the sum and closed the contract. But ere he left his grounds he paid a farewell visit to his favorite spring. His children found him sitting pensive and melancholy, mingling his tears with the waters of the spring—weeping over the cruelty of his artful brother.

"Two weeks later that spring ran dry. Some wise-acres said the waters had sunk, as they do in limestone soil. Others said, frogs and sand had suffocated it. But my ancestors say, 'The hand of God closed the spring.' Be it as it may, this we know, that the Son of God withered and dried a fig tree—roots and all—and we think He might have drowned that fountain too.

"After a time, all that land of Conrad Weiser passed out of the possession of his descendants, and to-day not an inch of ground remains to that name. Did the spring revive again? We know not. Does the mill still stand? Neither do we know that. But we do know three other facts:

"*First.* A part of the ground which God gave the Indians, which the Indians gave to Penn, which Penn gave to Conrad Weiser, which Conrad Weiser gave to his descendants, and which his descendants gave to strangers, to-day reverts to God again—the original Proprietor, and the Father of the fatherless.

"*Secondly.* Another fountain opens on these grounds to-day, of sweeter waters than those with which one of my ancestors mingled his tears—a fountain of charity, of more value than five hundred pounds, which will cause not tears to fall, but tears to dry on many an orphan's cheek.

"*Thirdly.* A mill is erected on these grounds which, if it grind slowly, will yet grind surely the bread of charity, which will not have a bitter taste either, for it is sweetened by the love of God."

By Providence our "Home" is planted in Tulpehocken, a region in East Pennsylvania. In an ancient "church register"—the oldest extant in our denomination in America—it is noted that *John Henry Gætschy* preached in the extensive territory of "*Skip-pack, Old and New Goshenhoppen, Swamp, Saucon, Egypt, Macedonia, Masillon, Oley, Bern and Tulpehocken.*" This was his diocese. Is it by accident, then, that our "Orphans' Home"—the first and principal one in our Church—should be located in the oldest missionary territory of the first known Reformed minster in North America? This is the primitive American soil to the Reformed Church, and here lies even yet her main strength, dormant though it may be, to a large extent. It is but right, therefore, that this "Home" should be planted here. The God who directs the swallows' advent and departure, has not had His eye closed on this movement of charity. Here let it ever stand, on our original Reformed soil, and in the heart of our sincere membership, appealing silently and eloquently to them for their aid and prayers.

CHAPTER VIII.

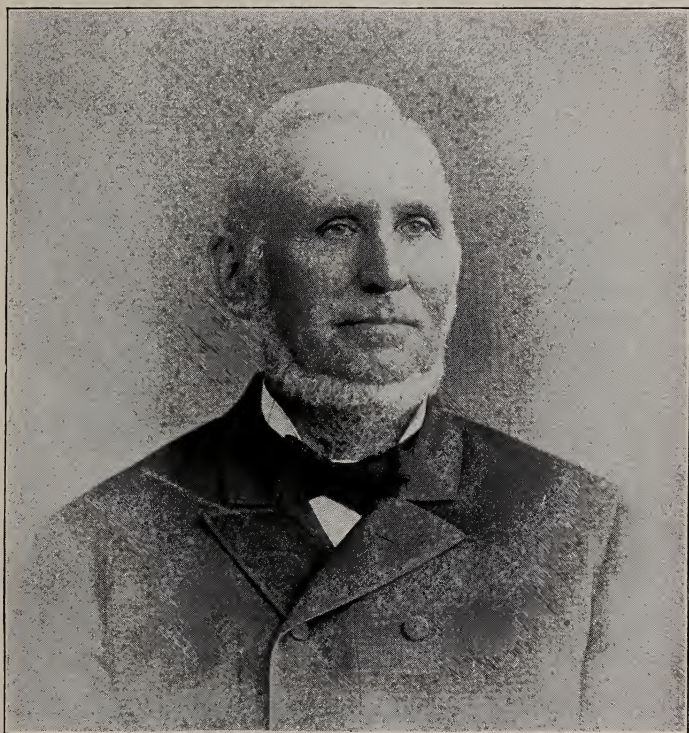
RESIGNATION OF REV. D. Y. HEISLER—REV. D. B. ALBRIGHT SUPERINTENDENT FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS AND FIVE MONTHS.

THERE were, no doubt, many unusual cares and much extra labor connected with the position of Superintendent at the time of the removal from Bridesburg to Womelsdorf, and in making the new Home, with its surroundings, what it was desired that they should be. All this work made such serious inroads upon the health of Superintendent Heisler that he felt constrained to resign his position. This he did at a meeting of the Board held in the beginning of October, 1868. In accepting his resignation, the following action was unanimously passed:

“The Board learns with sorrow that Rev. D. Y. Heisler, on account of failing health, feels himself constrained to resign his office as Superintendent of our Home. During more than two years he and his wife labored with great faithfulness and unwearied self-denial for the interest of our institution, which is highly appreciated by us, as well as by the friends of the Home. Therefore,

“*Resolved*, That we regret the necessity which compels us to accept his resignation.

“*Resolved*, That this Board herewith tenders its hearty gratitude to Rev. D. Y. Heisler and his wife for their valuable services which, under many difficulties, they have rendered to our Home.



REV. D. B. ALBRIGHT.

SUPERINTENDENT FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS AND FIVE MONTHS.

"Resolved, That our best wishes attend him and his wife with the prayer that the Almighty Father of the fatherless may soon restore him to health again, richly reward them for their services and lead them to some other suitable field of labor.

"Resolved, That we herewith invite Brother Heisler to attend our future regular meetings as an advisory member."

At the same meeting, in October, 1868, at which the resignation of Rev. D. Y. Heisler as Superintendent was accepted, the Board elected Rev. D. B. Albright of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill county, Pa., as his successor

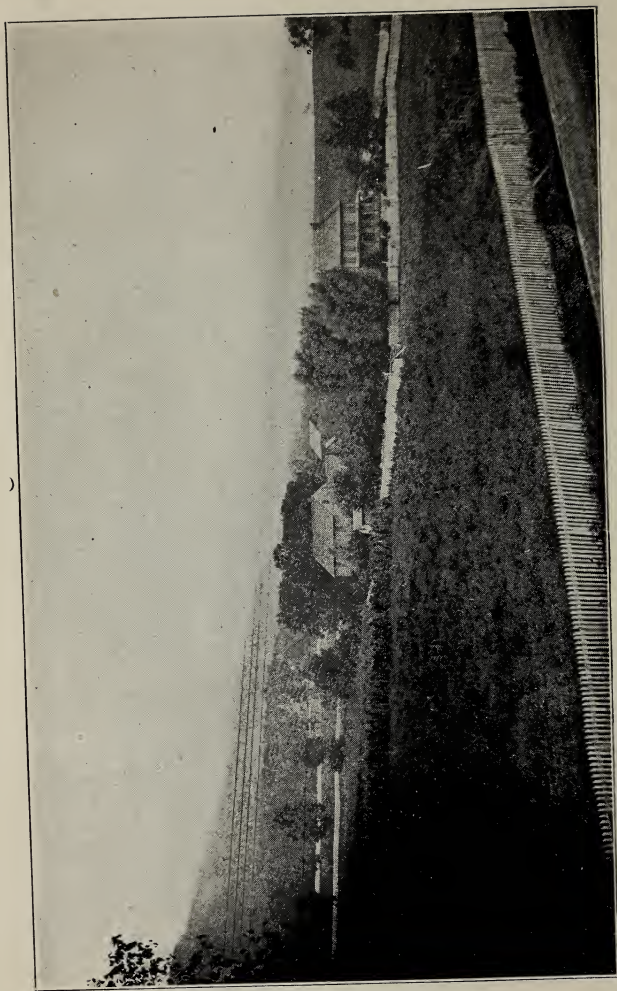
On November 12, 1868, Mr. Albright and wife entered upon their respective duties as Superintendent and matron of the Home. About a hundred friends were present to welcome them. Many brought full baskets and furnished a meal for all present. In the afternoon, religious services were held in the chapel. The President of the Board, in its name, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Heisler for their faithful and valuable services. The new Superintendent and wife were heartily welcomed, and the orphans and servants admonished to love and obey them. The brethren D. Y. Heisler, C. H. Leinbach, T. S. Johnston, T. C. Leinbach and L. D. Leberman took part in the services.

Mr. Albright was installed as Superintendent on the 26th of December, 1868. The chapel was crowded upon the occasion. A large number of sleighs had brought people from the surrounding country to witness the ceremony. The President of the Board conducted the installation services, after which, in the

name of the Board, he formally handed the keys of the Home to the new Superintendent.

In the original "Plan for Establishing an Orphans' Home," which was published in the *Laemmerhirte*, in August, 1863, the following appears: "On Sunday regular services shall be held in the home, except on occasions when the whole family attends divine worship in a neighboring church. As soon as circumstances warrant, a chapel shall be erected and a congregation formed."

Although no separate chapel had been erected, in the main this plan of conducting services had been observed. No congregation, however, had been organized in the Home before Rev. D. B. Albright became Superintendent. Now, on account of the inconvenience of attending any other church and for the spiritual quickening of the inmates of the institution he, after having received permission of Lebanon Classis, organized a congregation, and on the 21st of July held the first communion with some thirty guests. At the same time a class of seventeen orphans was confirmed. Whilst Mr. Albright was pastor of this congregation, he confirmed fifteen classes, numbering in all 149 persons. The Gospel was preached, the sacraments administered, the congregation admonished and instructed by word and example to contribute to benevolent objects as God gave them ability. The history of the benevolence of this flock during these years, although the membership comprised only the employees of and children in the Home, would



OLD FARM BUILDING.

show an inspiring example to many stronger and richer congregations.

In the summer of 1871, the last payment on the indebtedness of the Home, incurred by the purchase of the property at Womelsdorf, was made. The anniversary this year, July 27, 1871, was made an occasion of special thanksgiving on this account. The weather was pleasant and there were between 5,000 and 6,000 people present. Of this occasion, Superintendent Albright writes and makes the following statements:

“Our friends came from a district of country extending from Pittsburg to New York to help us praise God for the payment of the whole debt on the Home. At half past twelve, P. M., the Womelsdorf band led the procession of the Board and family to the grove. Besides the usual exercises by the orphans, the large congregation sang ‘Nun Danket Alle Gott.’ Dr. F. W. Kremer led in prayer in the English and Rev. L. K. Derr in the German language. Rev. J. Gantenbein, a former Superintendent of the Home, spoke in German, and the brethren B. Bausman and D. B. Albright in the English language. Rev. W. T. Gerhart dismissed the assemblage with the benediction.”

In August, 1873, the Manderbach farm, adjoining the Home farm, containing 60 acres and 65 perches, with a house, barn and an old mill, was bought for \$10,600. A number of persons paid \$175 apiece, about the price of an acre of ground, towards paying for this farm.

On September 11, 1874, an article appeared in one of the Reading papers, in which charges were preferred

against the Superintendent, teachers and teamster, alleging that they had maltreated certain orphans. This statement was given wide publicity. The President of the Board immediately called a meeting, at which also Prof. J. P. Wickersham, State Superintendent of Soldiers' Orphans, Dr. Diller Luther, Secretary of the State Board of Charities, and others were present. The meeting was held with open doors, continuing for three days. Many witnesses were heard and a thorough investigation of the charges made. The result of this investigation, as found by the Board, was that, whilst there was a foundation for some of the charges, and the Board regretted that any peculiar method had been employed in inflicting punishment by any one, and disapproved of these acts, they were convinced that the charges originated principally in the malice of an employee of the Home; that the general discipline of the Home was no stricter than that required for the proper training of the children and the preservation of order, and that the Superintendent and teachers were faithful in the performance of their duties.

During the year 1875, the farm house on the newly purchased farm was repaired and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Albright, and this continued to be the Superintendent's residence until Mr. Albright resigned, eleven years later.

The eighteenth anniversary, held July 18, 1881, was a jubilee occasion, because at this time the debt, incurred by the purchase of the additional Manderbach farm, in 1873, was finally cancelled. We give the

action of the Board in reference to this matter, as read at the anniversary, even though in it are some facts which have been stated before:

“The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, in the name of the Reformed Church, hereby expresses its gratitude to the Giver of every good and perfect gift for helping us to pay the whole debt resting on the property of our beautiful Home. In 1867, we bought a part of our present property, consisting of twenty-seven acres of land, more or less, and the principal buildings, for \$33,000. During the year following, we had to expend \$2,500 more for necessary improvements. At the first purchase, the home had not fifty dollars in hand. Kind Christian friends came to our help. One annual payment after another could be made. In 1873, we bought the adjoining Manderbach farm, consisting of sixty acres, more or less, of land with certain buildings, for \$10,600. Again we had to expend several thousand dollars for stock and necessary improvements. Since then many poor and rich people helped us with their gifts and their prayers. Two years ago it was proposed to raise the amount of the remaining unpaid payment, \$4,000, in \$100 gifts. A number of friends helped in this effort, in sums varying from \$25 to \$500. At yesterday's meeting (annual meeting) it was found that we lacked \$160 to make up the whole amount. A certain family, which had already given \$500 towards this effort, and whose cordial charity and rich gifts to our Orphans' Home we are not permitted here all to record, offered to give us \$200 additional, which more than covered the whole amount needed. Thus we have been able to make the last payment, with the interest, in all \$4,240, and had a balance left to be used for current expenses.

“In our happy experience during these fourteen years past, since 1867, the merciful hand of God ha

perceptibly and most wonderfully helped us. Therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this Board herewith record its sincere gratitude to God for His merciful help and bountiful blessing in the liquidation of the whole indebtedness resting on the property of our Orphans' Home.

"Resolved, That by this mercy of God we feel ourselves admonished to serve Him in the future with more heartfelt devotion and consecration, and that it is our sincere prayer that all the dear friends and co-workers in this good cause may feel themselves anointed by the same spirit of personal consecration to God.

"Resolved, That this Board herewith extends its cordial gratitude to all dear friends who have helped to pay this debt."

Now the Home was free of debt, and possessed a magnificent property. There was great rejoicing throughout the Church, because it had such a well-equipped institution for its orphans, but this joy was destined to be of short duration. In a little more than three months from this day the main building of the Home was destroyed by fire, the particulars of which are reserved for another chapter.

On the 14th of January, 1886, Rev. D. B. Albright resigned his position as Superintendent, and withdrew on the first of April following, after having served in that capacity for a continuous period of seventeen years and five months.

When the Home was removed from Bridesburg to Womelsdorf, a large part of its land was overgrown with bramble bushes, thorns and all kinds of undergrowth, and covered with stumps, rocks and loose stones. A large part of it was in a wild, uncultivated

state. Superintendent Heisler, with the assistance of the orphan boys, at once began to remove these unsightly obstructions, and when Rev. B. D. Albright became Superintendent, he vigorously carried on this work, digging ditches, draining boggy marshes, removing stones and clearing the fields of brush and thorn bushes. In a number of years he placed the land in a state of productive cultivation. He rendered important service to the Church by securing to her such a valuable farm, and at the same time benefited those in his charge by taking care of and developing their physical as well as mental and moral faculties.

Rev. and Mrs. Albright worked faithfully during all this time that they were at the head of the institution. They endured many trials and annoyances during these long and laborious years, such as they only can appreciate who do not merely visit orphans' homes and see the bright side of life there, but who, having been in the position, know what it is to be the constant head of a family of from seventy-five to one hundred children. On the other hand, they no doubt enjoy many of the pleasant features of such a life, for, truly, to be in the midst of such a large and healthy family, to see children brought under the good influences of a Christian institution, to see them put aside sinful habits and to develop into obedient, God-fearing boys and girls, to see them grow up, under careful training, into honest, upright, industrious Christian young men and women, to spend years in the midst of such surroundings cannot be all trial,

shadow and storm, but there must be, yes, there are many bright spots to lighten one's otherwise heavy burdens.

During the seventeen years of Superintendent Albright's administration, about three hundred orphans passed out into the various callings of life—ministers, lawyers, merchants, mechanics, teachers, etc.

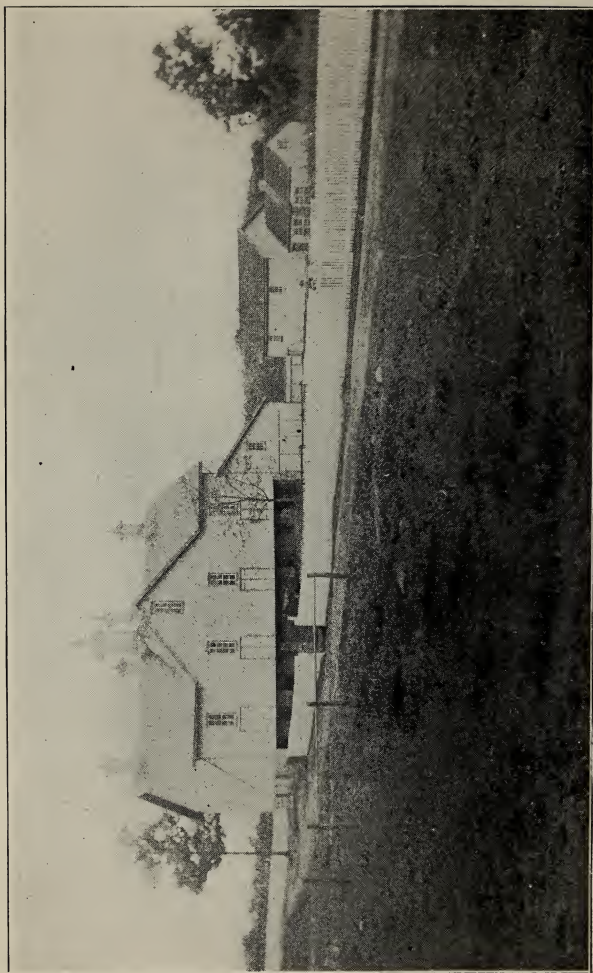
In reference to the resignation, the Board of Managers took the following action:

"This Board learns with feelings of sadness that Rev. D. B. Albright feels himself constrained to resign as Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home. For a period of more than seventeen years we have been associated with him in its management. During this time he and his estimable wife have supplied the place of father and mother to hundreds of orphans. With untiring zeal and unwavering constancy, they have performed the difficult duties belonging to the Superintendency of such an institution. The many orphans they have nurtured and trained to manhood and womanhood, as well as the Church owning the Home, will cherish the blessing of their laborious services with unfading gratitude.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Board be, and hereby are, tendered to Rev. D. B. Albright and wife for their valuable services rendered to Bethany Orphans' Home.

"*Resolved*, That our kindest wishes attend them to whatever sphere in life they may be called, as well as our prayers that the blessing of the Father of the fatherless may rest upon them now and forever."

When Mr. Albright entered the Home as Superintendent, he found it resting under a debt of \$24,000, with interest adding at the rate of six per cent. In



NEW BARN.

1873, the Manderbach farm was bought for \$10,600. Besides this, much money was spent in making necessary improvements and purchasing stock. One hundred dollars a year was received from the State for each soldier's orphan, and through the influence of Senators Davis, of Reading, and Zerby, of Lebanon, the State gave at one time \$3,000, upon the plea and for the reason that this institution was not receiving as much annually for keeping soldiers' orphans as other homes received.

During all these years a large number of orphans were cared for, and when Mr. Albright went out of office, the Home was free of debt.

CHAPTER IX.

BURNING OF THE HOME—ERECTION OF NEW BUILDING.

IN a little more than three months after the day of general rejoicing, on account of the possession, by the Church, of a well-equipped Home, free of debt, the main building was destroyed by fire. Shortly after midnight, November 11th, 1881, one of the orphan girls knocked at the door of Mr. Griesemer, the farmer, and gave the alarm of fire. The orphans and other inmates were quickly aroused. The smaller children were hastened out of the building to a safe place in the field, and later removed to the Superintendent's house, some distance from the Home. The larger children and others secured buckets and carried water to extinguish the fire, but it was already beyond control. The flames swept over the building and in a comparatively short time reduced it to ashes, leaving only the brick and stone walls. These were afterwards taken down. Part of the furniture and much of the clothing was saved. Many people from Womelsdorf and the surrounding country hastened to the scene and offered their help, but help was in vain. The origin of the fire has remained a mystery unto this day. It seemed to come from the woodhouse in the rear of the main building, but no one could explain it. The total amount of insurance was \$12,400, of which \$2,000 was on the furniture.

The Superintendent reported to the President of the Board of Managers, by telegraph, as follows: "Home burned down. Children all safe." The news of the calamity was quickly spread throughout the Church and telegrams at once poured in. "What are your most pressing needs—bedding, clothing, provisions? Answer quick." There were also many letters full of expressions of sympathy and offers of assistance for temporary and permanent relief.

In the afternoon of the same day the Executive Committee of the Board of Managers, consisting of Rev. B. Bausman, Isaac McHose, Jos. Coblentz and Rev. C. H. Leinbach, held a meeting at the house of the Superintendent, and instructed him to make temporary provision for the family by putting the available rooms in the several remaining buildings in such a condition as to make the inmates of the Home comfortable.

At a meeting of the Board, held on the 17th of November, 1881, three important committees were appointed: first, a building committee, with Mr. Isaac McHose as chairman; second, a committee to prepare and send out to the ministers and Sunday-school superintendents a statement and an appeal for special contributions; third, a committee to prepare as complete a history of the Home as possible, the minutes and principal records of the same having been destroyed by fire.

Although certain propositions had been received for the removal of the institution to other places, it was at once decided to rebuild on the old site. The

committee on circular prepared the following appeal, which was adopted by the Board and sent out to the churches and Sunday-schools:

AN APPEAL FOR BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME.

"The destruction of the main building of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa., has left our orphans without a suitable dwelling place. Trusting in God and in the merciful support of His people, the Board of Managers has decided to erect a new structure for this purpose. A building committee has been appointed, with instructions to procure a plan from a competent architect, to be submitted to the Board in the middle of January next. Meanwhile the contributions of the churches toward this object will indicate what kind of a building the owners of this orphanage wish to have erected. The wants of the institution require a plain, substantial edifice, arranged expressly for this purpose, which would cost at least twenty thousand dollars. Of this amount, ten thousand will have to be procured through the contributions of our friends. We appeal to every pastor and to every superintendent of a Sunday-school, at once either to appoint suitable collectors to secure help among the people under their supervision, or to adopt such other measures as may best accomplish the end proposed.

"Our misfortune has touched the hearts of many good people throughout the country. It is important that the sympathy thus awakened should be invited to formulate itself into corresponding offerings, lest these warm impulses will subside without affording the cause any practical help in the future. All contributions can be sent to Mr. Wm. D. Gross, box 2147, Philadelphia, Pa., or to Rev. D. B. Albright, Womelsdorf, Pa. Persons sending gifts will please state

whether their offerings are to be appropriated to the building fund or to meet current expenses.

'Fire has destroyed our building, it cannot destroy the love of Christ in the hearts of His people. To this love we appeal in behalf of our Home. It represents a cause which lies near to His heart. Above all other friends is this divine Friend of the fatherless. Surely it was His hand that shielded the lives of our dear orphans against the ravages of the flames on that terrible night of the fire. After this deliverance, they seem doubly precious to us. We now feel that He is pressing this cause home to our hearts with a solemn emphasis never felt before. We ask all pastors and people, all parents and children, to help us in securing \$10,000 to build a Home where the Reformed Church for generations to come can receive and train the fatherless in the name of Christ and for His glory. Surely to all who will thus help us in the right spirit shall the King say, in the last great day, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'

B. BAUSMAN,	ISAAC MCHOSE,
D. B. ALBRIGHT,	JOSEPH COBLENTZ,
C. H. LEINBACH,	JOHN WIEST,
W. D. GROSS,	GEORGE Z. KUNKEL,
GEORGE GELBACH,	HENRY WIRT,
N. WETZEL,	WILLIAM H. LEVAN,
JOSEPH LAUBACH,	
<i>Board of Managers.</i>	

Reading, Pa., November 21, 1881."

It is an interesting fact to note here that the first contribution for the re-building of the Home was received from the Zion congregation, Buffalo, N. Y., Rev. J. B. Kniest, pastor. The amount was \$120.50. It will be remembered that when the first appeal was

sent out by Rev. Bœhringer, in the *Læmmerhirte*, nearly nineteen years before, for the establishing of an orphans' home, the first response (\$1.50) came from Buffalo, from Jacob Plantz, a member of this same congregation.

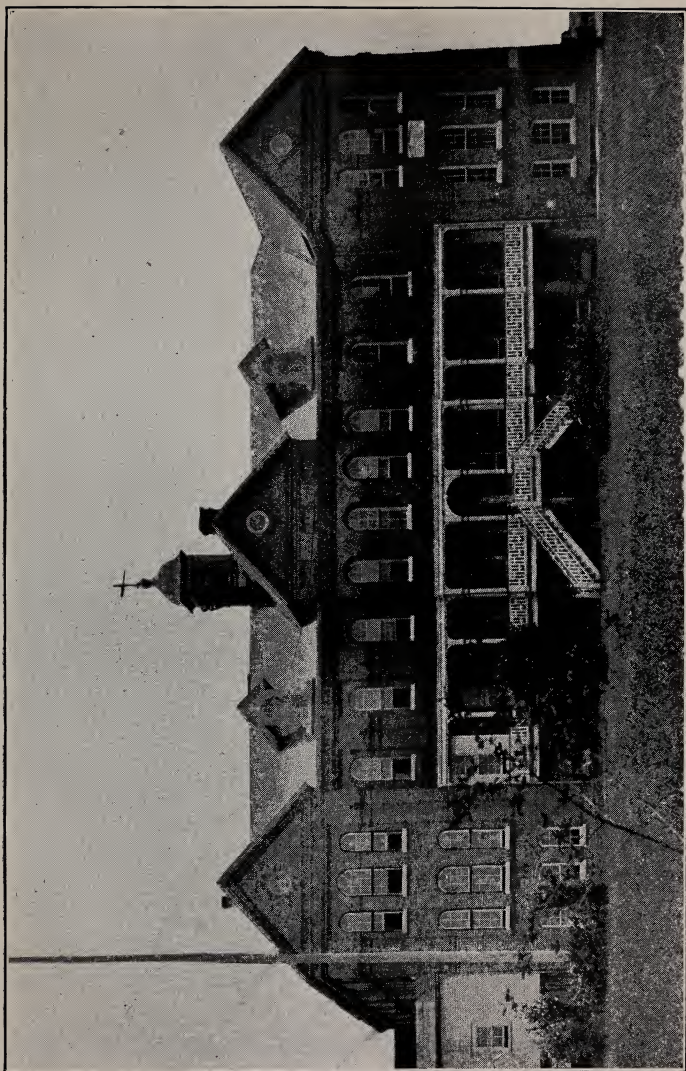
The Church responded liberally to the call which came to it through the burning of the Home, for in a little more than one year it collected and sent to the treasurer for a new building \$14,139.67. All these contributions were entered into a special book, kept for this purpose, which is now in the archives of the Home.

The contract for putting up the new building was let to Messrs. Gassert & Cilley, of Lebanon, Pa., for \$20,366.99. The total cost of the building, including steam heater, gas machine, plumbing, vault, etc. amounted to \$26,626.69.

At the laying of the corner-stone of the new building, an address was made by Rev. E. E. Higbee, D.D. On account of the inclemency of the weather, only a few persons were present.

Rev. B. Bausman laid the corner-stone. The whole liturgic service selected for the occasion was performed by the choir. The building was dedicated on the 14th of December, 1882, Rev. T. C. Porter, D.D., of Easton, making the address, and on the 21st of the same month the family took possession of its new Home.

The burning of the Home was considered a very great calamity at the time. However, an examination of the ruins after the fire proved that the building had been of such weak construction that, in all probability, it would at some time have succumbed to a violent



MAIN BUILDING.

storm. It may be that its burning was the means of preventing its destruction in a way that might have involved the loss of many lives. Certain it is that out of the ruins there came better buildings, with more friends, a deeper interest and a more liberal support to carry on the work.

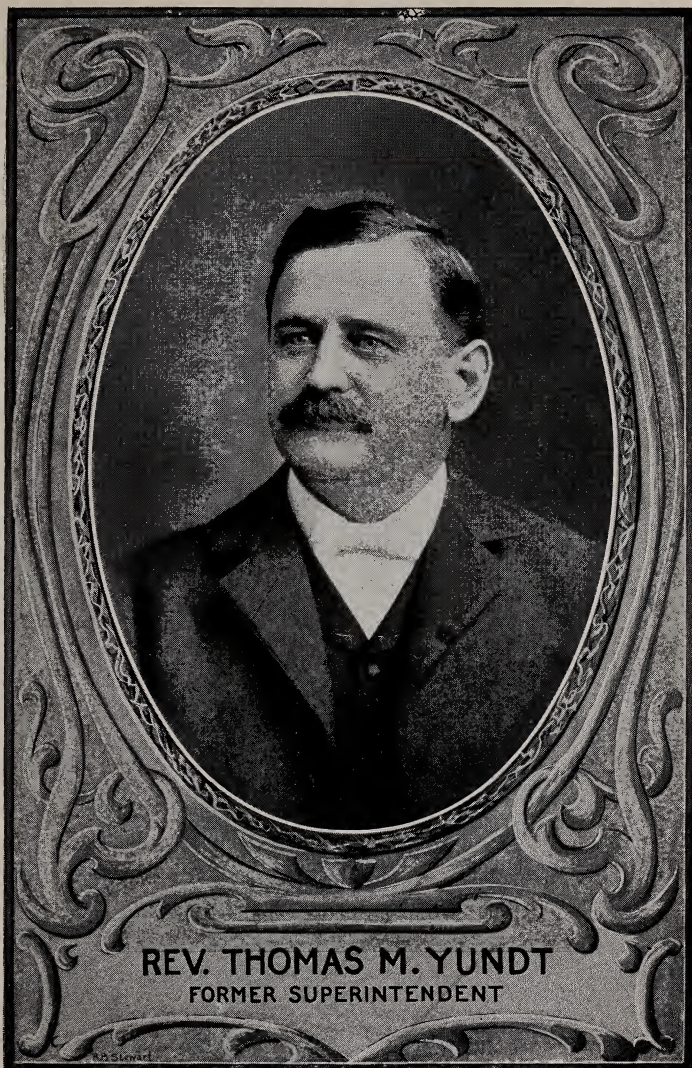
CHAPTER X.

THE RESIGNATION OF SUPERINTENDENT ALBRIGHT. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF REV. T. M. YUNDT AS HIS SUCCESSOR—EARLY YEARS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

ON the 14th of January, 1886, Rev. D. B. Albright presented his resignation as Superintendent, the same to go into effect on April 1st. A committee, consisting of Rev. B. Bausman, Jacob Rader and W. R. Lawfer, was appointed, who reported as follows:

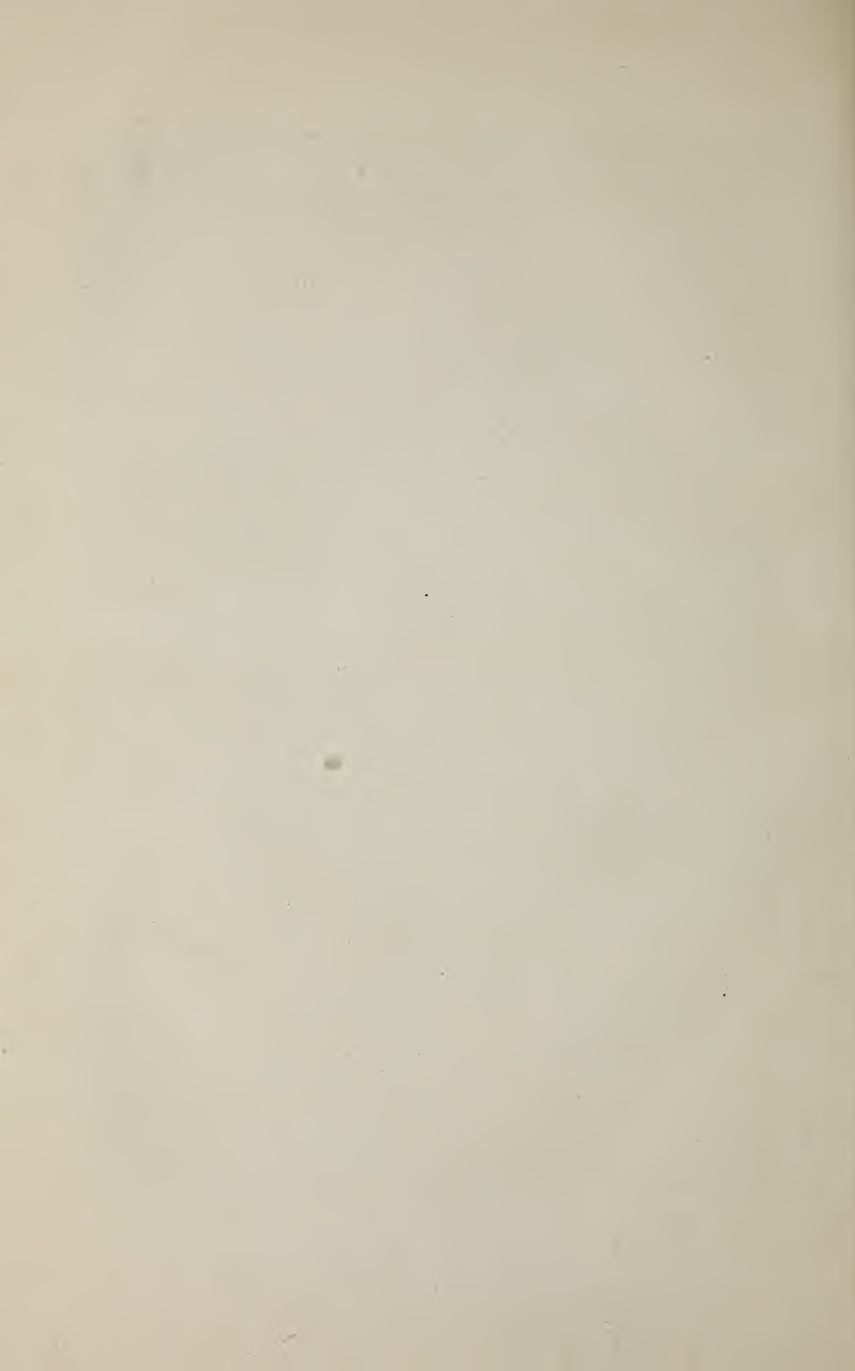
“This Board learns with feelings of sadness that Rev. D. B. Albright feels himself constrained to resign as Superintendent of Bethany Orphans’ Home. For a period of seventeen years we have been associated with him in its management. During this time he and his estimable wife have supplied the place of father and mother to hundreds of orphans with untiring zeal and unwavering constancy. They have performed the difficult duties belonging to the superintendency of such an institution. The many orphans they have nurtured and trained to manhood and womanhood, as well as the Church owning the Home, will cherish the blessing of their laborious services with unfading gratitude.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be and are hereby tendered to Rev. D. B. Albright and wife for their valuable services rendered to Bethany Orphans’ Home.



REV. THOMAS M. YUNDT
FORMER SUPERINTENDENT

A. B. Seward



Resolved, That our kindest wishes attend them to whatever sphere in life they may be called and our prayer that the blessing of the Father of the fatherless may rest upon them now and forever."

By a call of the Superintendent, at the suggestion of the President, a special meeting of the Board was held in the study of Dr. Bausman, on Thursday, February 11, 1886, for the purpose of choosing a Superintendent and matron. A number of names were suggested and considered. It was felt that the office called for unique qualities, such as very few of the ablest ministers possess: natural endowment, tact, conscientious fidelity, a tender, sympathetic love for the homeless and fatherless and full consecration to such a noble charity. It can only be filled by a married couple, where husband and wife can, in the fullest sense, take the place of father and mother to those committed to their care, making it their chief aim to build up the character of the children by bringing them into saving union with God in Christ Jesus."

The Board felt very keenly its responsibility in seeking the right persons to fill the positions, and the members were sorely perplexed in their desire to make a proper choice. Finally, Mr. Wm. R. Lawfer suggested a young minister and his wife, formerly of Allentown, and then serving as missionaries at Wyandotte, Kansas, in his estimation, suitable persons to put in charge of the Home. On the strength of this recommendation, Rev. Thomas M. Yundt was elected Superintendent and his wife Matron. They accepted the call, and on March 25, 1886, they entered upon the work. The

following account of the installation is taken from the Reformed Church "Messenger":

"On the 25th of March, 1886, Rev. Thomas M. Yundt, the newly-elected Superintendent, and his wife, arrived at this institution. Besides five members of the Board of Managers, a number of lady friends of the Home from Reading were present to give them a warm greeting of welcome to their new field of labor. The ladies brought their well-filled baskets along, and furnished a relishable dinner to the visiting guests. A religious service was held in the chapel, when the Superintendent and his wife were formally introduced to the orphans and all others present. Mr. Yundt briefly addressed the congregation, and among other things stated that on his way from Kansas eastward, they had visited the Orphans' Home of the Reformed Church at Fort Wayne, Indiana, which requested him to convey its affectionate greetings to Bethany Orphans' Home. Short addresses were also delivered by the President of the Board and the brethren E. A. Gernant and J. H. Derr.

"On April 8th, the Board held its regular quarterly meeting in the Home. Two orphans were admitted. Rev. D. B. Albright submitted his final financial statement, which was audited by a committee appointed for this purpose.

"At 2 p. m. the Board proceeded to the chapel, where the inmates of the institution and other friends were assembled to attend the installation of the new Superintendent. After the singing of several hymns and a prayer, and the reading of a suitable Scripture lesson, the President of the Board officially installed Rev. T. M. Yundt as Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home. The retiring Superintendent then read a succinct statement of the history of the Home under his administration, and a summary estimate of the

present personal property of the institution. Thereupon he officially handed over the keys of the Home to Mr. Yundt, who followed with a brief salutatory address to the orphans."

On July 1, 1886, the new Superintendent submitted his first report, from which we quote:

"We have no case of serious sickness to report. The house, with the exception of one or two rooms, is comfortably furnished, and, with the exception of a few necessary repairs, is in good order. The farm is well stocked, and from present indications, we have every reason to expect a bountiful harvest of grain and fruits. This institution, in its present condition, is a beautiful and beneficent monument to the love, sympathy and liberality of the members of the Reformed Church in the United States."

There were sixty-one children in the Home at this time.

The twenty-third anniversary of the Home was celebrated on Thursday, August 26th. It was a memorable occasion. About three thousand persons were present. One excursion, from the Lehigh Valley, numbered one thousand and sixty-four persons.

At the meeting of the Board of Managers, held on the 16th of September, 1886, the following action was taken:

"*Resolved*, That a standing, visiting and advisory committee of fifteen ladies (five of whom shall constitute a quorum) be appointed by the Board, who shall meet at the Home at least four times a year, and as much oftener as they shall deem necessary, and who

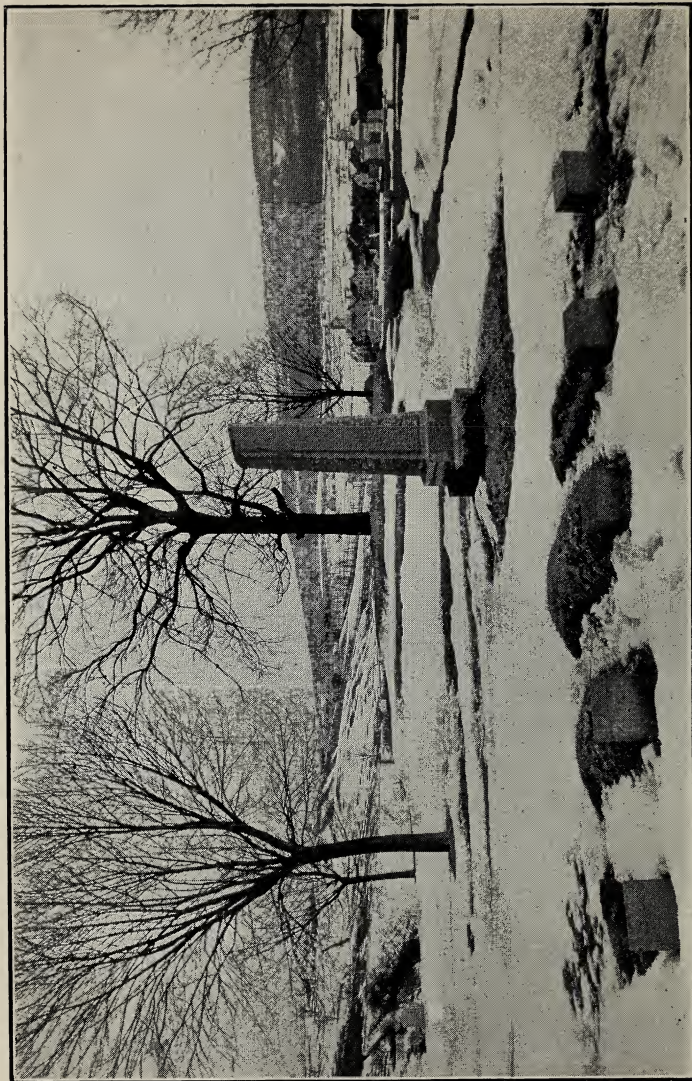
shall confer with the Superintendent and matron, and through the Superintendent, report from time to time as to the condition of the Home. The committee shall be empowered to fill any vacancies which may occur during the year."

The first meeting of this committee was held on the 6th of October following, at the Home; the following ladies being present: Mrs. Aaron S. Leinbach and Mrs. James T. Reber, Reading; Mrs. Wm. D. Rauch, Lebanon; Mrs. George Z. Kunkel and Mrs. George Small, Harrisburg; Mrs. Henry Shirk and Miss Annie E. Dorwart, Lancaster; Mrs. Thomas Steckel and Mrs. Samuel Butz, Allentown; Mrs. Anna M. Eyerman and Mrs. Matilda Chidsey, Easton. Regrets at not being able to attend the meeting were received from several ladies, who had been invited to be present.

Since that time this committee has met regularly every quarter. At every meeting they take up a collection amongst themselves for the benefit of the Home. This committee has rendered much valuable aid to the institution, the members cheerfully giving their time and contributing of their means to support this work.

On the 20th of February, 1888, Annie B. Stung, one of the orphan girls, died of congestion of the brain. This was the fourth child that died in the Home in nearly twenty-five years. The first one, a little boy, died while the institution was still located at Bridesburg. The second death occurred in 1871; this was a boy, Franklin Beaver, from Chambersburg, Pa., and his body was taken there for burial; he died of bron-

CEMETERY LOT.



chitis or diphtheria. In 1879, Lyman Gerhard, a boy thirteen years of age, died of acute rheumatism. He was buried at the Host church, in Berks county, near where his uncle resided.

This is a remarkable record for an institution which cares for so many hundreds of little children. As there were no relations to care for Annie while she lived and none to bury her when she died, the Superintendent selected a spot for a single grave in the cemetery in Zion's Union church, at Womelsdorf, thinking that perhaps the Home would some time purchase a lot or make a private cemetery, and the body could then be removed there. Before the day of the funeral, however, Mr. Samuel Gabel, learning that the Home had no lot of its own, presented his private lot, newly purchased, and one of the most desirable in the whole cemetery, as a permanent burying place for children dying at the Home. There now rest the remains of five orphan children: Anna B. Stung, S. Calvin Wolfe, Charles Harp, Albert Hinkel and Ida R. Shank. Each little grave is marked with a simple tombstone, bearing the name, date of birth and death and the age of the silent sleeper. Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Eisenbrown have erected a nice monument, of dark granite, upon the lot. And now, when the busy Bethany boys and girls pause for a moment in their work or in their play, that monument helps them to locate the spot where their brothers and sisters sleep in the beautiful cemetery on the hill top, a mile away.

CHAPTER XI.

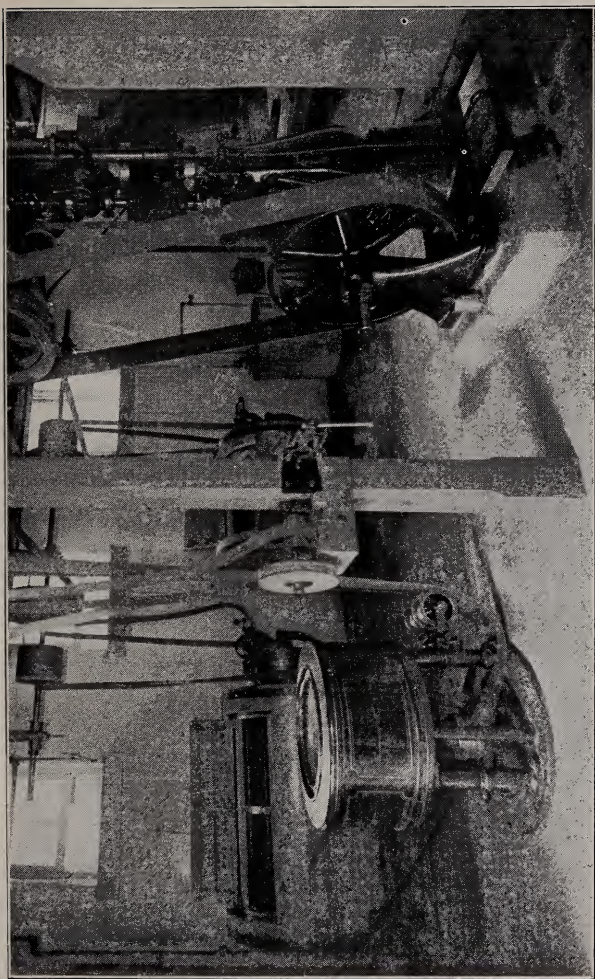
THE FIRST PERIOD OF EXPANSION—SANTEE HALL. VISIT OF POSTMASTER-GENERAL WANAMAKER.

IN 1887 the present laundry building was erected, at a cost of about \$1,300.

In the quarterly report of the Superintendent, dated October 10, 1890, we find the following:

“The Superintendent would earnestly call the attention of the Board to the fact that our building is as full as it ought to be, especially on the boys’ side. Earnest appeals are before us to admit more children. As far as it is in our power, it is our plain and solemn duty to assist the poor. I believe that we can still make room for a few more, but this should only be done with the idea that it is only a temporary arrangement. Overcrowding and occupying of every nook and corner of an orphans’ home has undoubtedly been the cause of much evil. In these institutions, if anywhere, there should be plenty of room. If we do take up more children, let us tell the Church that we must have more room to take care of them and let us enter upon an aggressive campaign to secure the means for this object. Let us go forward in faith and enlarge our work to meet the necessities.”

In response to this statement, a committee was appointed to meet at the Home and formulate a plan to enlarge the capacity of the institution; this committee to report at a special meeting or at the next regular meeting.



LAUNDRY.

At the Board meeting, on January 9, 1891, the following action was taken in reference to enlarging the Home:

"Feeling the great need of more room to carry on our work and properly meet the pressing applications to take up more children, the Board

"Resolved, That, without delay, we proceed to make provision for the erection of an additional building.

"Resolved, That the new building be located on the east of the present building."

At a special meeting of the Board of Managers and the Ladies' Committee the drawings, as ordered by the special committee and made by Architect Mull, were examined and discussed and, on motion of Mr. Gross, it was decided to locate the new building where Santee Hall now stands.

Ground was broken in February. On account of heavy rains, progress was slow. However, by the time of the April Board meeting, the cellar was nearly dug out and there were sufficient stone on the ground for the foundations and cellar walls.

It was about this time that a letter was received from Mr. Charles Santee, in answer to a letter from the President of the Board of Managers. Mr. Santee, among other things, wrote as follows:

"I have been thinking a good deal about Bethany Orphans' Home, in regard to enlarging its capacity, and expected to contribute towards erecting the contemplated building. Before doing so, I wish to inquire about the amount of money needed. Please give me an approximate estimate of its cost. I am

greatly obliged to you for frankly presenting the matter to my attention in your own peculiar way."

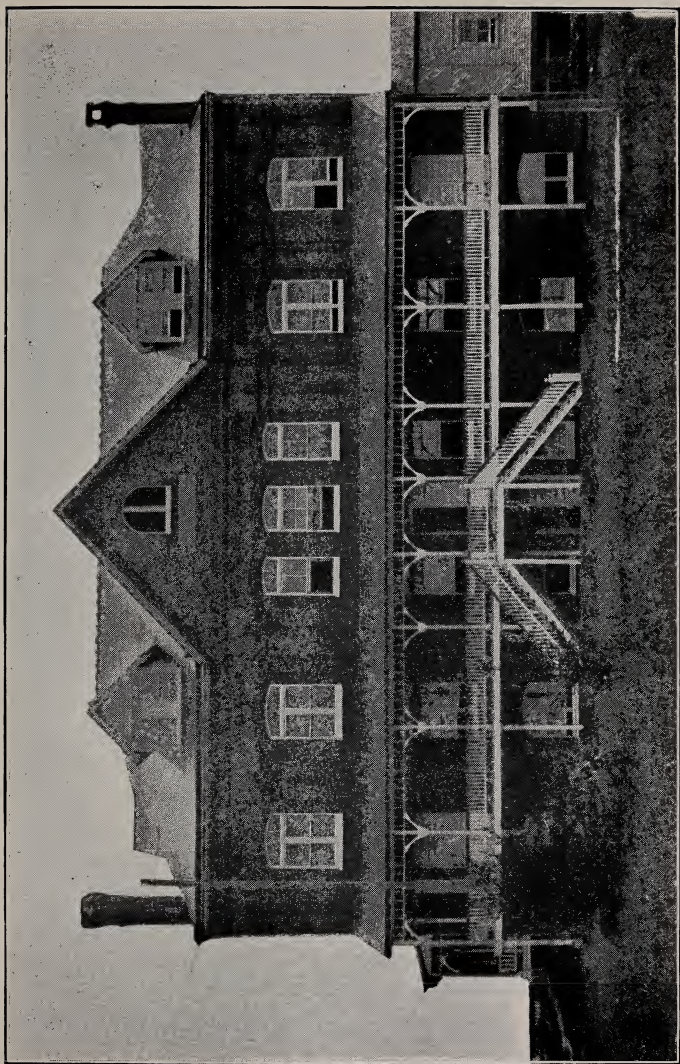
In response to this request, Mr. Santee was given a detailed description of the building required, its approximate cost and the amount of money needed to justify the Board of Managers in proceeding with the erection. To the great joy of all, he at once made the following reply:

"It is evident that the affairs of the Home have been managed upon business principles. I have concluded to give \$5,000 towards the erection of the contemplated building. I herewith transmit my obligation; binding my executors to carry my subscription to effect in the event of my being called home."

In recognition of this liberal gift, in addition to \$2,000 previously given, all in memory of his son, Joseph H. Santee, who had died on November 21, 1888, the Board of Managers desired to name the new building "Santee Hall." The generous donor reluctantly consented and "Santee Hall" now stands as one of the many monuments to this good man.

Its dimensions are 53 by 84 feet, and it furnishes room for fifty girls. Its entire cost, with furnishing and equipment, was about \$18,000. In addition to the Santee contributions, \$9,550 were available from other sources. The remainder came in response to a special appeal.

About the same time seven acres and seventy-eight perches of woodland was bought for \$512.24. It was paid for by a few individuals. This increased the Home farm to 96 acres.



SANTEE HALL.

The twenty-ninth anniversary of the Home, in 1892, was a memorable occasion, not only because the new Santee Hall for girls was ready for inspection, but also on account of the presence of the Honorable John Wanamaker, Postmaster-General of the United States, as one of the speakers. He was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Bausman, who spoke, in part, as follows:

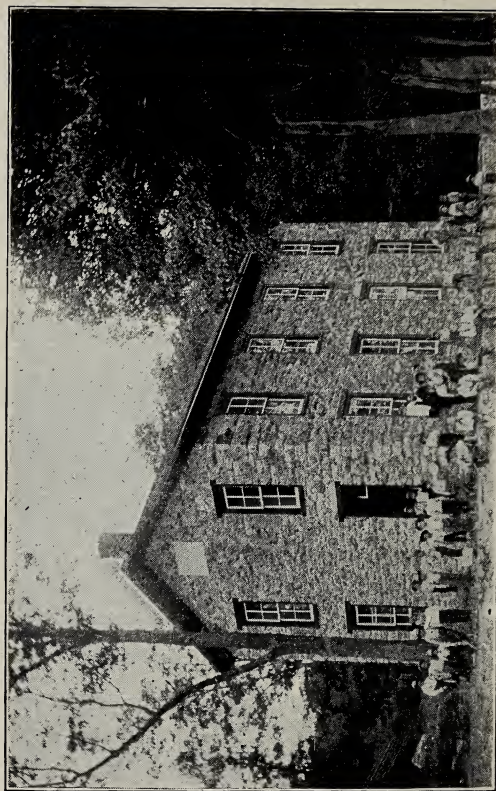
"Ten years ago I stood by the grave of Lazarus, in Bethany, Palestine, but I have found since that there are more important things than the graves of dead saints, and they are the hearts of the living. The largest Sunday-school in the United States bears the name of Bethany, which is also the precious name of this Home. It is a beautiful tribute that a man in public life should step aside from his responsible duties for an hour and come here among us. I have the pleasure of introducing the father of the largest Sunday-school in the United States, and a member of President Harrison's cabinet, Postmaster-General Wanamaker."

Mr. Wanamaker was greeted with applause as he rose to address the assemblage. He said:

"Dr. Bausman pays me an honor in saying that I am here to-day because I wanted to come. It is strange that I find myself here, but it is the Providence of God to give me this pleasure and opportunity to meet so many of my friends in the Lehigh and Schuylkill valleys, fellow Pennsylvanians, fellow Christians, mothers and fathers in Israel, who are making Pennsylvania the great State it is. I always wanted the opportunity to come to Womelsdorf and see this child

in the mountain, and when the persistent Lawfer asked me to come, I could not refuse. It is a great thing to build a steamship, it is a wonderful thing to build a railroad, but it is a greater thing to touch the life of a little child, in whose hands are, perhaps, the powers of great things. I belong to the Presbyterian Church, but we have no homes like the one you have here. The German Reformed Church that my mother loved so dearly has been permitted to advance a step further and do a great work. The greatest thing for the world is to educate the little children to do better things than their fathers."

Thus ended the first period of expansion. It was followed by a few years of quiet internal development with a lessening deficit at the end of each year.



CARPENTER SHOP.

CHAPTER XII.

THE SECOND PERIOD OF EXPANSION—FRICK COTTAGE.

THE annual report of the Superintendent, presented to the Board of Managers at its meeting in July, 1895, contains several items of special historical interest. We quote from the report: "The road from the station to and around the buildings, at which we have been working for several years, is now finished." This is a very creditable specimen of road building, and has caused much favorable comment. It is a great convenience and improvement to the property.

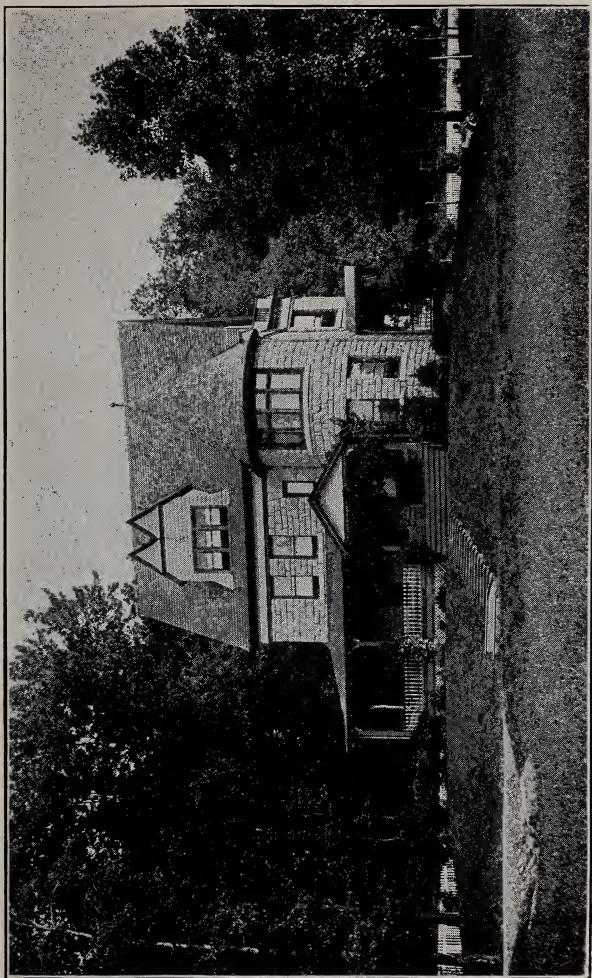
Further this report informs us that "through the liberality of friends, the Home was enabled to secure two hundred fruit trees and three dozen grape vines and six chemical fire extinguishers." The former were donated by Mr. H. M. Housekeeper, of Philadelphia, and the latter by Mr. James T. Reber, of Reading.

At this meeting of the Board, the Committee on Property was directed to build a boys' shop. This action resulted in the erection of the present building, 24x36 feet, at a cost of \$1,200. The upper story is used for a carpenter shop, and the lower story as a trade school. A tablet in the front wall awaits the name of some liberal benefactor who will equip and endow it for industrial training.

But the most far-reaching and significant action of that memorable Board meeting was that with reference to "the erection of a cottage for little children." This matter was referred to the Committee on Property, with the request that they report at a future meeting.

Meanwhile Mrs. H. M. Housekeeper, of Philadelphia, a member of the Trinity Reformed church in that city, received an inheritance from her parents and was considering how she might invest this money safely, so that it might add no sorrow but bring satisfactory returns. This inheritance represented the results of a lifetime of hard labor and frugal habits and it was the daughter's desire above all things that it should be put to unquestionably good use. It was at this time that she heard of the need of a cottage at Bethany Orphans' Home for the housing of little children. She invited the Superintendent of the Home to visit her and explain the object of such a cottage. He did so, and the result of the interview was that she decided to erect the building as a memorial to her parents and said that she was ready, through her husband, a member of the Board, to devote between four and five thousand dollars to this purpose. This generous offer was gratefully accepted by the Board of Managers, and Rev. B. Bausman, D.D., J. T. Reber, L. Kramer, T. M. Yundt, Dr. J. Z. Gerhard and H. M. Housekeeper were appointed as the building committee.

The entire cost of the cottage was about \$6,000, all of which was paid by Mr. and Mrs. Housekeeper. It was dedicated in connection with the celebration of the thirty-third anniversary, on August 27, 1896.



FRICK COTTAGE.

Rev. Dr. Bausman delivered the dedicatory address, speaking, in part, as follows:

"Hitherto our care for orphans began at six years of age. But who cares for those under six years? For the new-born infant, with no inheritance but the prayer of a dying mother? The want of this left a gap in our organization, a period in the child life unprovided for.

A pebble on the streamlet scant
Has turned the course of many a river.
A dew-drop on the baby plant
May warp the giant oak forever.

"The eternal destiny of millions is determined before they are six years of age. God be praised to-day that we can open the doors of Bethany Orphans' Home to the babes of the Church. Who can be deaf to the unspoken appeals of these little ones? Who can for them take a mother's place? Only God can comfort as a mother comforteth. Only He can understand the mysterious tenderness of a mother's first glance into the face of her new-born child. He alone can fathom the heart's deepest emotion of the dying mother, prayerfully committing her child to the Father of the fatherless and to the tender care of the Church.

"Out of our little faith this beautiful Home for the little ones has sprouted and grown. Unsolicited, a Christian lady has erected this building for motherless babes. Herself a mother, the act has a pathetic significance. With grateful hearts we accept this generous gift from the hands of its kind donor, in memory of her sainted parents. We promise to use it for the tender care of motherless little ones. May the Lord so guide and bless the ministry and mission of this cottage that all who shall be nurtured and trained here may become living and lasting monuments of the spirit that prompted and the liberal heart that executed the erection of this building.

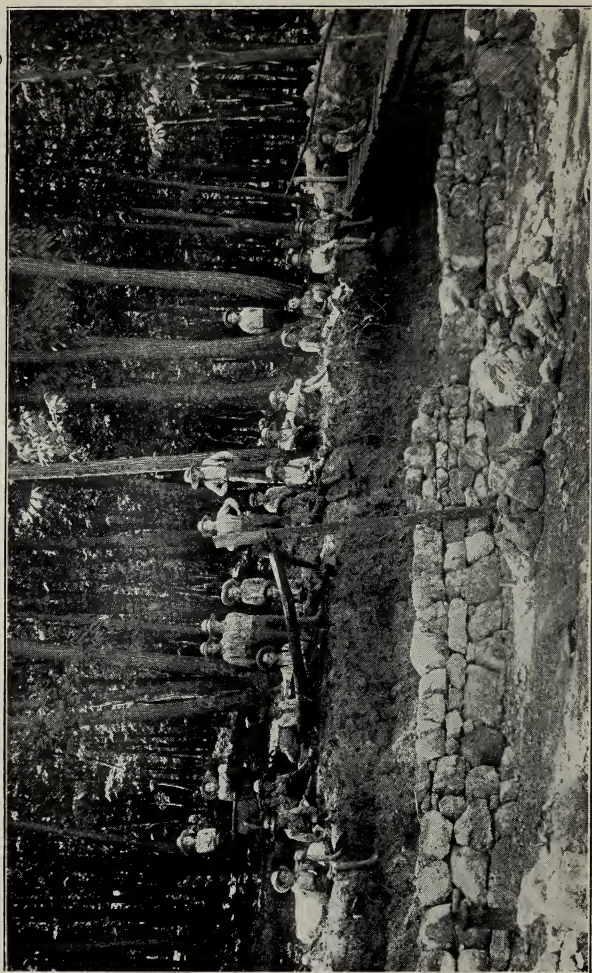
"Henceforth it shall stand as the memorial of a loving daughter to her sainted parents. It shall stand as the monument of a mother's love for motherless babes. It shall stand as a guarantee of the Church that the homeless little ones of Christ under God shall here find hearts to love and hands to provide them with a mother's tender care. To this threefold mission, we hereby dedicate this children's cottage and invoke upon it the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

"We recommend its future keeping to the mothers and daughters of the Reformed Church. To them it appeals with special force. We pray that under their tactful care and the blessing of our Heavenly Father, all the children brought here may become the children of God and heirs of eternal life."

The cottage was opened for the reception of children on January 11, 1897.

During this period also the new water works and reservoir was built, in 1897, at a cost of \$1,400, and two years later the steam laundry was equipped and the Home connected with long-distance telephone.

Thus ended the second period of expansion.



BOYS BUILDING RETAINING WALL.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE THIRD PERIOD OF EXPANSION—THE NEW SCHOOLHOUSE.

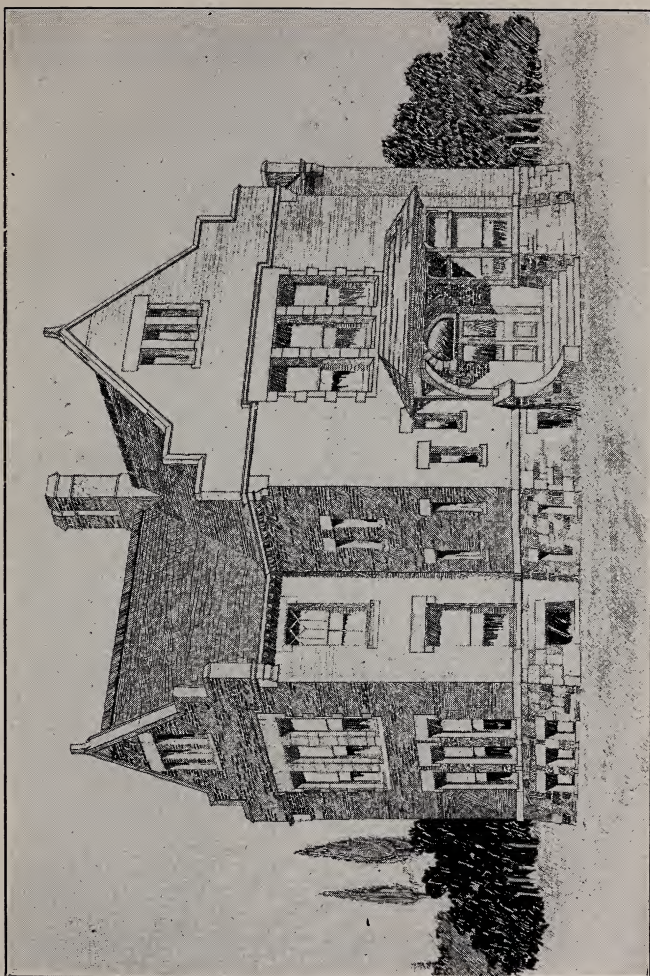
A NOTABLE improvement at the beginning of the third period of expansion was the erection of the retaining wall back of the buildings, along the bank of the woods. It is about six hundred and fifty feet long and on an average, including the foundations about seven feet high. The work of excavating, hauling the ground, digging and hauling stones was done mostly by the farmer and the boys. Four objects were attained by this work; ground was secured for filling up and grading the front yard; the unsightly bank back of the houses was removed; a larger level space for work and playground secured, and the stones were removed from the woods.

At the Board meeting, in October, 1900, the Committee on Property was instructed to inquire into the necessity of erecting a separate school building, and, if possible, to propose some plan to the Board at the following meeting. The same committee was also instructed to erect a suitable spring house. This was done during the following quarter, and the present building, eighteen feet square, with an open frame pavilion over it, is the result. The work was mostly done by the farmer, the caretaker and the boys. Afterwards it was found necessary to make some improve-

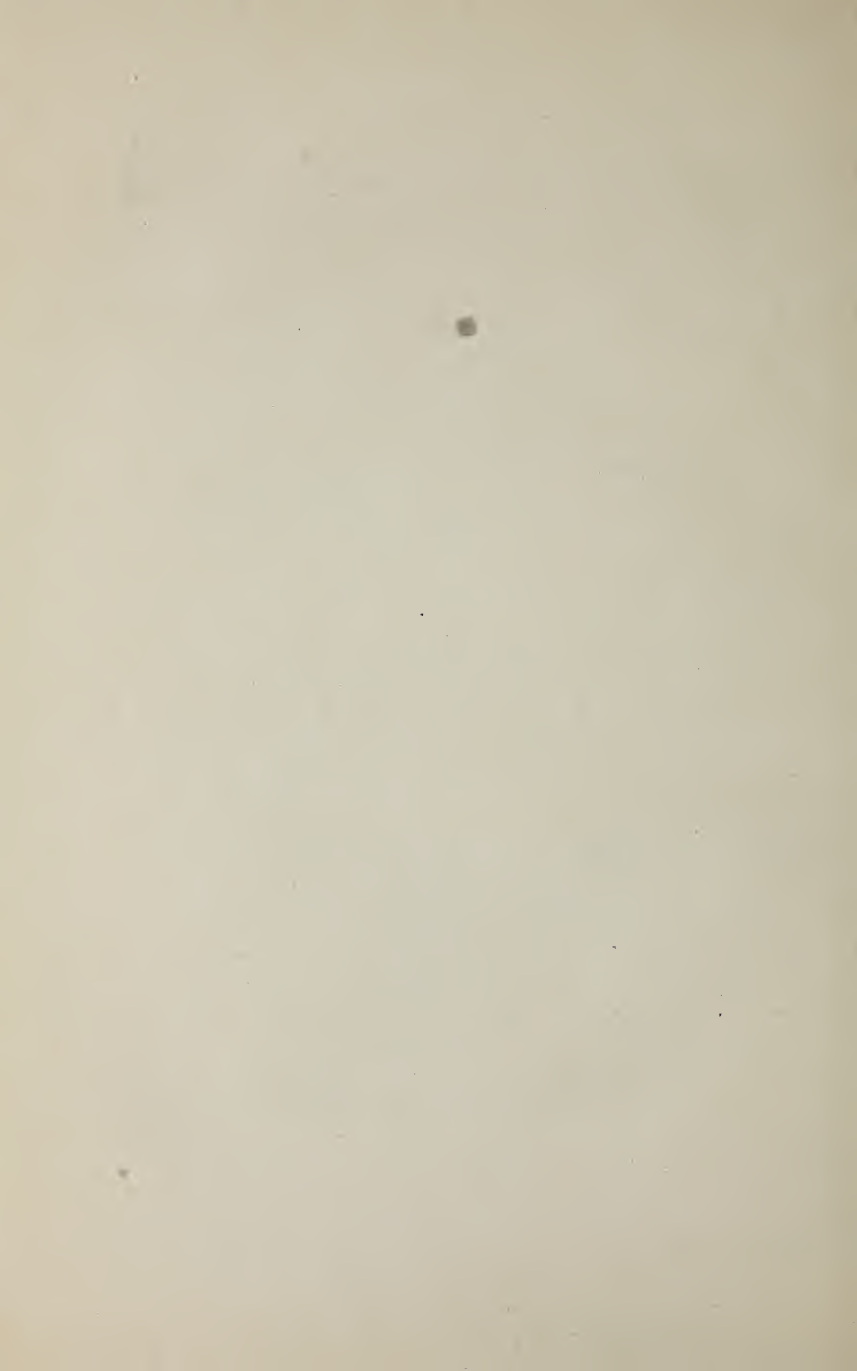
ments about the spring, both to protect it and to improve the general appearance of the place. The total cost of these improvements was \$795.61. The Mrs. Louisa Heidenreich legacy was used to pay for the erection of the spring-house. About this time also a new steam heating plant was introduced, at a cost of about \$700.

But the most important improvement during this period was the erection of the new school house. The old school rooms in the main building were deficient in light and ventilation and no longer adequate to the needs of the Home. Besides this, they were needed for other purposes. Accordingly it was "resolved that we hereby decide to erect a suitable school building, to meet the wants of the Home," and the committee on property was directed to get plans and specifications, and if possible, proposals for the erection of such a building. At the special meeting, on June 11, 1901, bids for the erection of the new building were opened, and after full consideration, it was decided to give the contract to George W. Beard & Co., of Reading. The contract price, not including the item of plumbing, was \$7,275.

The work of building was pushed vigorously and the school room was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1901. It is a two-story brick building, with four large school rooms, together with two smaller rooms, which can be used as a library and museum. The building was paid for with undesignated legacies left to the Home by the following persons: Caroline Santee, of Philadelphia, Pa.; John Bruner, of Coopersburg, Pa.;



NEW SCHOOL HOUSE.



Daniel Black, of Easton, Pa.; William Keller, of Easton, Pa., and John Heilman, of Lebanon, Pa. The furniture, costing over \$500, was paid for by Mr. Eugene and Miss Mary Santee, of Philadelphia. W. R. Lawfer & Co., of Allentown, donated all the window shades and shade fixtures, and Mr. Owen Hess, of Nazareth, Pa., donated slate blackboards for one room. The building was dedicated on anniversary day, Aug. 22, 1902. Rev. Dr. Bausman delivered a brief address, in the course of which he said that the before-mentioned legacies could not have been put to better use than that of paying for a beautiful modern school building. "In this way the money of the donors will be transformed into Christian character." The total cost of the new school house, with equipments, was \$9,485.13.

Following the erection of the new school building, there was another period of quiet growth and internal improvement, as well as an extension and deepening of the interest of the Church in the Home. This is indicated by the more comfortable condition of the finances and the growing balances in the treasury.

CHAPTER XIV.

THE RESIGNATION OF SUPERINTENDENT YUNDT. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF REV. W. F. MORE AS HIS SUCCESSOR.

AT the April meeting, in 1904, Superintendent Yundt presented his resignation to the Board. His reasons for so doing are stated in the following words:

"I feel that the time has come when some change is necessary for the welfare of my own family. After living for eighteen years right in the midst of a large family of orphan children, without the privacy which is the priceless boon of every true family circle, I feel that we need some more quiet place of residence and that we ought no longer to deny to our own children that for which I have always plead as the ideal lot of any child, namely, the private Christian family."

The Board of Managers reluctantly accepted the resignation, recording on the minutes with reference thereto:

"The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home deeply regrets the resignation of Rev. Thomas M. Yundt and his estimable wife, for many years the efficient and faithful superintendent and matron of this institution. Eighteen years ago they came to us as a young and newly-married couple. To them the superintendence of an orphans' home presented a

unique and untried field of labor, upon which they seemed to enter not without some misgivings. In a comparatively short time, they adjusted themselves to their novel environments and fully measured up to the requirements of their new calling. Endowed by nature and education for their difficult duties, they succeeded to a remarkable degree practically to take the place of natural parents to our large fatherless family. Kind, tender-hearted and sympathetic in their intercourse with them, wise and humane in their discipline, parental in their religious nurture and training, under their fostering care hundreds of orphan children grew up into useful manhood and womanhood.

"As the official representatives of this orphanage, they won multitudes of liberal friends and supporters of the Home throughout the Church. To many such they have endeared themselves through abiding personal attachments. To the members of the Board, through years of goodly fellowship, in laboring in the common cause dear to our hearts, they have become friends, loving and beloved, to whom we are attached by bonds sacred and abiding.

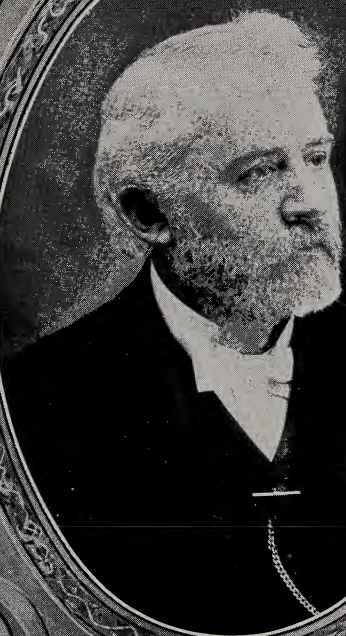
"But for their decided and repeatedly urged sense of duty to retire from their official and laborious relations to the Home, the Board would, under no consideration, have accepted their resignation."

At this same meeting, Rev. Yundt was elected a member of the Board of Managers, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Louis Kraemer, and Mrs. Yundt was elected a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary Board, in place of Mrs. S. E. P. Mosser, resigned, and a committee, consisting of Rev. B. Bausman, D.D., Rev. Thos. M. Yundt, James T. Reber and H. M. Housekeeper was appointed to canvass the

Church and suggest some one for Superintendent, reporting to the Board of Managers either at a regular or special meeting when ready to nominate a person for the position. After considering a number of names, the committee unanimously decided to place in nomination the Rev. Wilson F. More, of Catasauqua, Pa., and the Board, by a rising vote, unanimously elected him Superintendent of the Home and Mrs. More matron of the same. These persons were duly notified of their election and accepted the positions. The new Superintendent was installed in connection with the Board meeting, on July 14, 1904; the following being the order of service: Invocation by the Rev. Thos. M. Yundt; hymn, No. 379; Scripture Lesson, John 10: 1-14, by Rev. Yundt; prayer by Rev. W. F. DeLong, Annville, Pa; hymn, No. 292; installation service, by Rev. B. Bausman, D. D., President of the Board of Managers; address by the retiring Superintendent and handing over of the keys to the new Superintendent; response and inaugural address by Rev. W. F. More, the new Superintendent.

The form of installation used on this occasion may be of interest to those who may be called upon to conduct such a service hereafter. It is as follows:

“My Christian Friends: At a meeting of the Board of Managers at Bethany Orphans' Home, held on April 7, 1904, Rev. Thos. M. Yundt resigned as Superintendent of the institution—an office which he faithfully filled for a period of eighteen years. At a special meeting of the Board, held June 1, 1904, Rev. Wilson F. More was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Yundt. He has con-



REV. WILSON F. MORE
SUPERINTENDENT

sented to accept the call. As the Board is at this time holding its quarterly meeting, and Mr. More being here for this purpose, we will now, in the name of the Lord, proceed to install him as the official head of this institution.

"The superintendency of an orphans' home is an extremely difficult and responsible office. It has to do with a class of children whose homeless and orphaned condition appeals to us with peculiar tenderness. They crave and need the love and sympathy of natural parents. All that is combined in the best parents is needed for this office, most of all needing the help of God's special grace every day.

"And now, dear brother in Christ, in view of the grave responsibility and great solemnity of the trust involved in this office, are you willing and ready to accept your call to it and to take charge of this position as the father of Bethany Orphans' Home?

"Do you promise and engage that you will, by the help of God, endeavor faithfully to discharge the duties of your office in the nurture and training of the orphans under your charge and care, in a judicious discipline and orderly and Christian government, and in a faithful direction of the temporal, intellectual and spiritual interests of the Home, in due and obedient subjection to the authority of the Board of Managers?

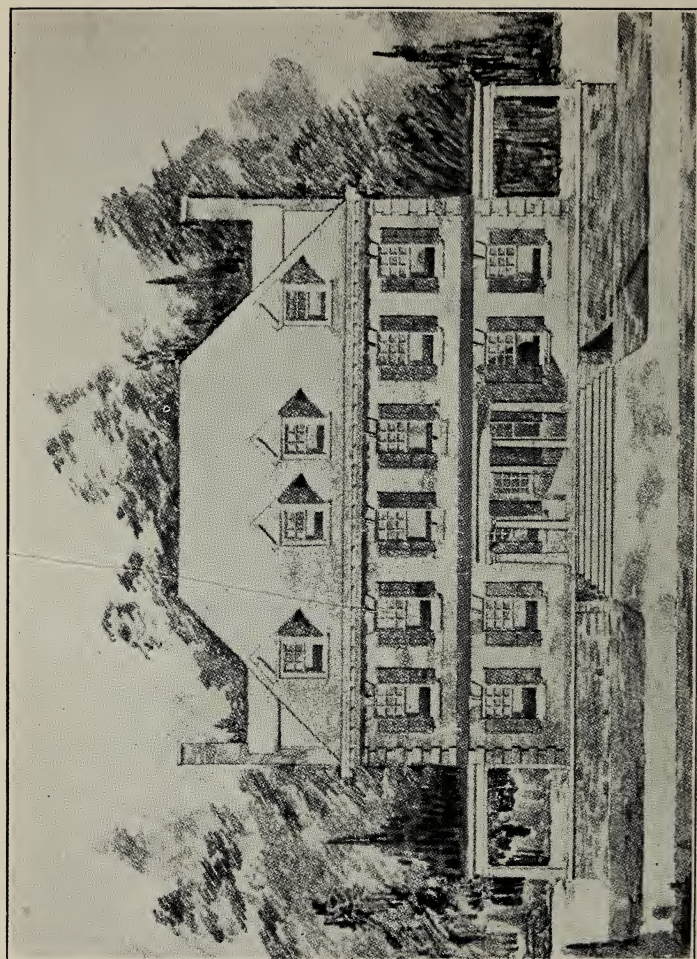
"On the ground of this solemn engagement, expressed before God and this congregation, I do now, by the authority of the Board of Managers, solemnly install you, Rev. Wilson F. More, as Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home, committing its inmates to your parental care and spiritual oversight, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

CHAPTER XV.

THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION—IMPROVEMENT.

THE new Superintendent and matron entered upon their work August 1, 1904. It was a new experience for them, but they found the work of the Home well organized, the children, for the most part, tractable and appreciative; the employees efficient and loyal; the Board of Managers and the Ladies' Advisory Committee kind and considerate and the Church disposed to stand by the Home at this crisis with kindly encouragement and liberal support. Especially helpful at this time to the new Superintendent was his predecessor in office, who gave him the full benefit of his ripe experience. All this helped to make the transition to the new regime as easy as possible, both to the orphan family and to the Church supporting it. It was the policy of the new administration to make as few changes as possible and these only after experience had proved them necessary.

Some improvements of the property were made. A covered passage from the wash house to Santee Hall was built and a separate heating system for Santee Hall was installed. Additional bathing facilities were provided for the boys and for the girls. In 1905, the Bricker property, consisting of a two-story brick dwelling and almost two acres of land was bought for \$1,285, and in 1906, the farm house was very greatly



NEW COTTAGE.

improved, by the addition of a two-story kitchen for the farmer and the building up of the shoemaker's kitchen, to make it two-story also. A large hen house was built, with a view to securing a larger supply of winter eggs, and the mill dam has been re-stocked with 600 rainbow trout, furnished by the United States government.

Having made these internal improvements at considerable expense, it was felt that the next move ought to be to increase the capacity of the Home. This feeling found official expression in the minutes of the meeting of April 12, 1906, in the following words:

"Whereas, The crowded condition of the Home compels the Board, at almost every meeting, to turn away children for whose admission application is made; and,

"Whereas, The liberal offerings of the Church indicate a willingness to support a larger work; therefore,

"Resolved, That the capacity of the Home should be increased as soon as possible by the erection of another cottage as a home for about twenty or twenty-four little boys and girls."

At the July meeting of the Board of Managers, Mr. James T. Reber reported that there was very good prospect of a liberal contribution for building purposes from the widow and daughter of the late George Leinbach, of Reading, Pa. Mr. Leinbach had willed two thousand dollars to the Home, but died within thirty days after making his will. This invalidated his bequest for charity. However, his family waived

all technicalities and honored the memory of the husband and father by carrying out his charitable intentions. Encouraged by this report, the Board decided to begin at once the erection of a cottage, and appointed Mr. James T. Reber as chairman of the building committee. Associated with him on the committee were H. M. Housekeeper, Jacob Ranck, Thomas M. Yundt and Wilson F. More. Mr. Alexander Smith, of Reading, was chosen architect.

On July 25th, the location and grades were finally determined, and after a picture of the site had been taken, ground was broken on July 27th, Master Walter McIlvain a Home boy, wheeling out the first barrow load of ground. By September 24th, the foundation and the retaining walls for the paved terrace were finished.

At the Board meeting of October 11th, Mr. Reber reported that he had received estimates of labor and material for the new cottage, indicating that, exclusive of cellar walls, it would cost about nine thousand dollars. It was decided that the Superintendent of the Home and the farmer, Mr. Miller, should jointly serve as superintendents of construction. The contract for the carpentering was given to Mr. Adam Spatz, who began work on October 15th. The brick-laying, plastering, tin work and painting were done by local mechanics.

At the time of this writing, December 31, 1906, the building is under roof and ready for the plasterers; the cellar is concreted; the boiler erected and much of the grading is done. If favorable conditions con-



THE FARMER.



BOYS AT BARN.

tinue, the cottage will probably be ready for occupancy by the time of the April Board meeting.

As compared with the other structures comprised in the Bethany group, the new building will have the following distinguishing features: its consistent colonial style of architecture, the fire-proof stairway, the large open fire place in the reception hall and the vapor system of heating.

CHAPTER XVI.

THE HOME AS IT NOW IS—ROUTINE OF DAILY SERVICE AND WORK.

THE internal workings of the Home continue about the same as heretofore. In this connection it may be of interest to give an account of the regular daily life in the Home.

During the months of May, June and July, the rising bell rings at five o'clock; during April, August, September and October, at half-past five o'clock, and during November, December, January, February and March, at six o'clock. The children rise promptly. The girls make their toilet, the larger ones assisting the smaller, and then, while some air the bed rooms, the others go down stairs to the dining room and kitchen to help in preparing breakfast and do work in general. The boys, after having washed, in the clear, cold spring water, and combed, go to their regular early work—some to tend the horses, cows, chickens and pigs and others to various chores that have to be attended to early in the day. Thirty minutes after rising bell the morning chapel bell rings. The children assemble in their play rooms. The boys engage in a morning prayer, after which all the children proceed, two by two, to the large chapel on the second floor.

The morning service consists of the singing of a



INTERIOR OF CHAPEL.

hymn, a free prayer and the benediction. After the regular service four of the larger girls leave the chapel to put the breakfast on the tables, while the Superintendent and the other children employ the time by reading the Bible, committing and reciting Scripture, catechism and hymns and such other exercises as may be helpful in impressing upon the children lessons on morality and religion. When they leave the chapel they proceed directly to the dining room, two by two. Here, after they are all seated at the tables, folding their hands and bowing their heads, they offer this prayer: "Heavenly Father, bless this food now before us. May it strengthen us to do Thy will, for Christ's sake. Amen." This before every meal.

After breakfast, the girls go to their appointed work, as indicated in a schedule posted conspicuously in Santee Hall. This schedule may be of interest, as showing the system of division of labor, change of employment and fixing responsibility. Here is the present work schedule of the Bethany girls (October, 1906):

Rosa Shaffer, assistant cook.

Dora Calwell, baker and cleans sewing room.

Emma Ehrle, chambermaid in Main Building.

Group One.

Group Two.

Group Three.

Effie Berkenstock,	Beatrice Reed,	Mabel Hackman,
Lizzie Witmer,	Addie Saltzman,	Anna Drissell,
Mary Winemiller,	Florence Zug,	Ada Fralich,
Alma Trumbore,	Minerva Baer,	Cora Wary.

During First Two Months.

Rosa Shaffer, Mary Starr and group one will wait on tables.

Group two will do Santee Hall work.

Group three will do kitchen work.

Marguerite Shank will be chief waitress in private dining room.

Mary Cassell will be assistant waitress in private dining room.

Mary Starr will clean passage and chapel.

Mary Knepper will clean boys' and girls' reading rooms.

Pearl Mottern will have care of spoons and clean corner playroom.

Ethel Latshaw will clean large playroom.

During Second Two Months.

Dora Calwell, Mary Knepper and group two will wait on tables.

Group three will do Santee Hall work.

Group one will do kitchen work.

Mary Starr will be chief waitress in private dining room.

Mary Knepper will clean chapel and passage.

Marguerite Shank will clean boys' and girls' reading rooms.

Ethel Latshaw will have care of spoons and clean corner play room.

Mary Cassell will clean large play room.

During Third Two Months.

Emma Ehrle, Marguerite Shank and group three will wait on tables.

Group one will do Santee Hall work.

Group two will do kitchen work.

Mary Knepper will be chief waitress in private dining room.

Ethel Latshaw will be assistant waitress in private dining room.

Marguerite Shank will clean chapel and passage.

Mary Starr will clean boys' and girls' reading rooms.

Mary Cassell will have care of spoons and clean corner play room.

Pearl Mottern will clean large play room.

The younger girls will do work as indicated below:

Anna Zimmerman, second lower girl in children's dining room.

Rebecca Moyer, first lower girl in children's dining room.

Hattie Fegley, second assistant in Frick Cottage.

Ada Bonser, third assistant in Frick Cottage.

Emily Stine, first assistant chambermaid in Main Building.

Florence Haines, second assistant chambermain in Main Building.

Esther Zetty, first hall work in Santee Hall.

Lizzie Zetty, assistant, first hall work in Santee Hall.

Mabel Reinhard, assistant chambermaid in Santee Hall.

Ruth Peters, middle cellar, steps and bake house.

Marguerite Hildebrandt, assistant in cleaning sewing room.

Hettie Saltzman, first flight front steps, Santee Hall.

Anna Fralich, first flight back steps, Santee Hall.

May Rupert, matron's chambermaid.

After a similar plan, and serving the same purpose, is the

WORK SCHEDULE FOR THE BETHANY BOYS.

Barn Boys.

Isaac Schifflet and Percy Mottern, feed and curry the farm horses.

Victor Becker, feeds the cows.

George Hoffman, curries the cows.

Rufus Ulrich, assists in milking the cows.

Ralph Conrad, tends family horse and feeds pigs and chickens.

House Boys.

John Badger, first boy in large boys' bed room.

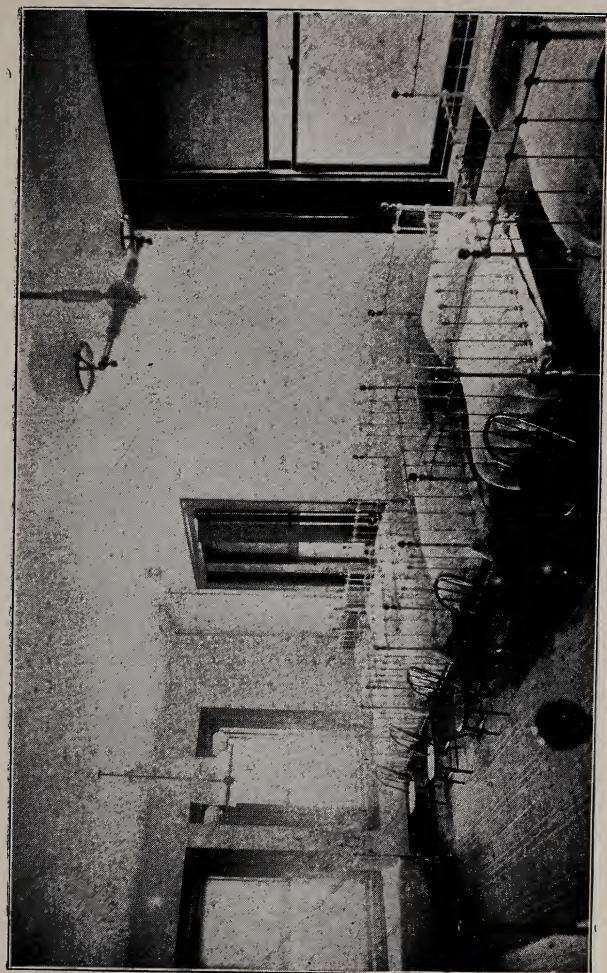
Charles Pulfrich, second boy in large boys' bed rooms

Harry Snook, David Shellhammer, Lewis Master. and Abram McDannel, assist in making beds and scrubbing.

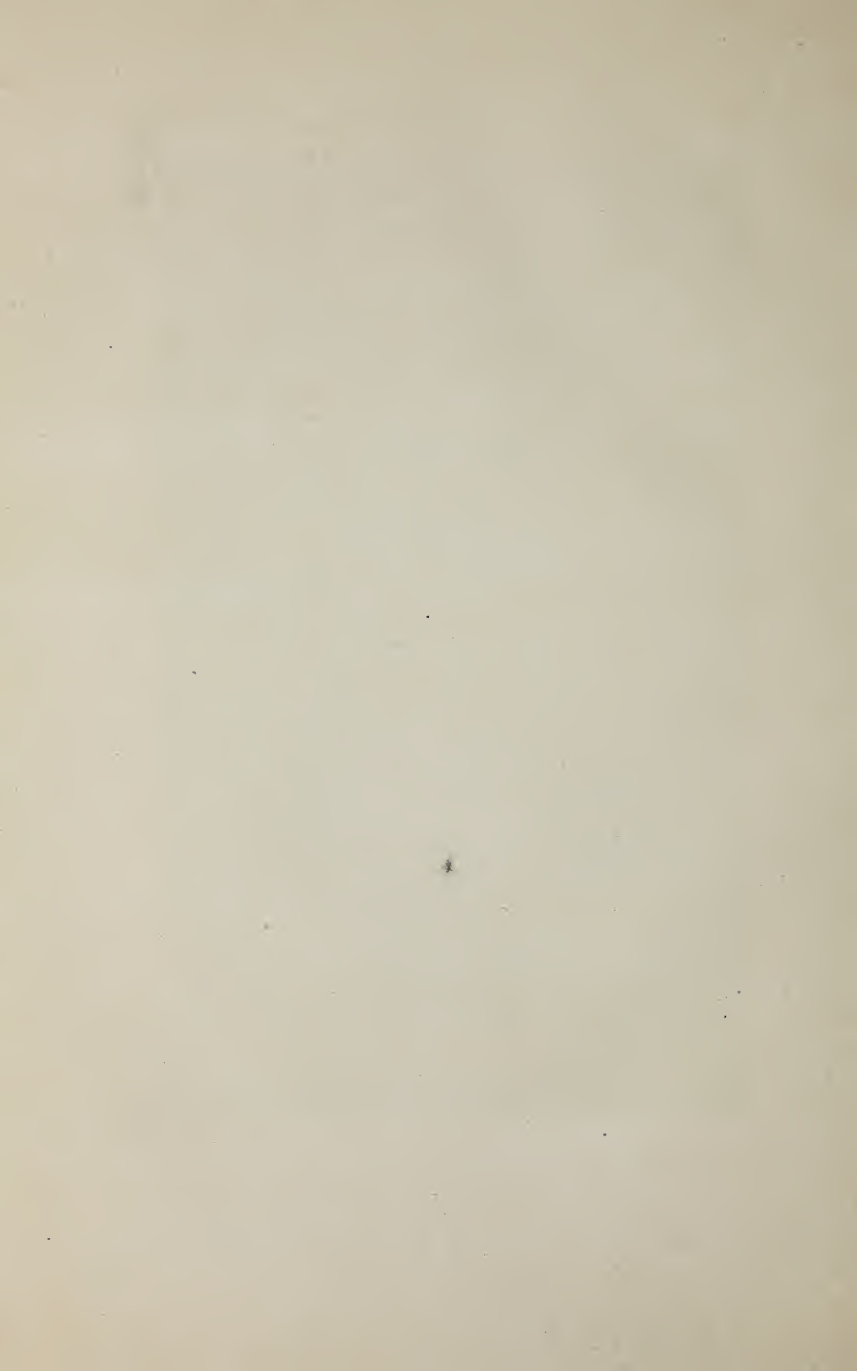
Horace Miller, first boy in small boys' bedroom.

William Saltzman and Preston Reed, assist in making beds and scrubbing.

Harry Snook, Lewis Masters, David Shellhammer, John Badger and Charles Pulfrich, clean third story hall and stairways.



BEDROOM FRICK COTTAGE.



Paul Wetter, Paul Donecker and Paul Steinkomph, clean second-story hall, front porch and laundry.

Russell Garlin and Oliver Shellhammer, clean first-story hall.

Leon Schueck and Walter McIlvain, clean large boys' play room.

Luther Hoffman and Alfred Delancy, clean small boys' play room.

Harold Beck and Thurman Witmer, clean large boys' bath room.

Clinton Masters, cleans small boys' bath room.

George Angstadt and John Ehrle, clean small boys' wash room and wash towels.

George Miller and Charles Kistler, clean porch and cement walks.

John Plasterer, Gregory Holcombe, Robert Benner and Ralph Snyder, sweep and dust school rooms every morning and scrub every two weeks.

Outside Boys.

William Saltzman carries the mail morning and evening.

Horace Miller assists mailboy in the evening.

Paul Wetter and Paul Steinkomph carry ashes from Main Building boiler.

Harold Holcombe and Roy Sherman, carry ashes from Santee Hall boiler.

Harry Snook and Abram McDannel, carry ashes from Frick Cottage boiler.

Luther Hoffman and Thomas Althouse, carry ashes from schoolhouse.

David Shellhammer and Oliver Shellhammer, carry ashes from laundry.

Joseph Knopp, carries fuel and ashes for Santee Hall kitchen.

James Ruth carries fuel and ashes for Frick Cottage kitchen.

George Trumbore and Harold Knopp, carry fuel and ashes for bake house.

Thurman Witmer and Harold Knopp, mind cows, first period; Horace Miller and Alfred Delancy, second period; John Plasterer and Clinton Masters, third period, and Thomas Althouse and Harold Beck, fourth period.

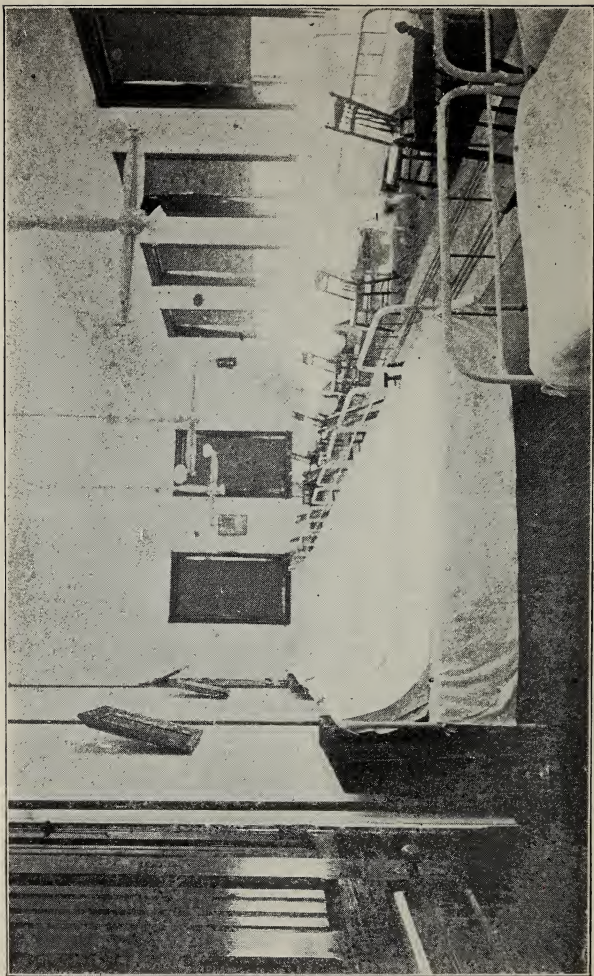
Paul Fegley, minds chickens, first period; Ray Vandevere, second period; Earl Knoll, third period, and Howard Sholley, fourth period.

Small boys, nine years old and less, under the direction of a larger boy, keep the lawn and grounds around the buildings clean.

Charles Kistler, Thurman Witmer, Harold Beck, William Saltzman, Alfred Delancy and Thomas Althouse, attend to the slop cart.

Dinner is served at a quarter before twelve o'clock. In order that the children may be properly served while at their meals, the officers and the employees do not eat at the same time with the children but wait on them. After the children are satisfied, the others take their meals.

Supper is served at a quarter past five during the entire year. The same order being followed as at breakfast and dinner.



GIRLS' BEDROOM.

After supper, comes the children's hour of play, which continues until seven o'clock, in winter, and seven-thirty in summer, when they are called in for evening worship. The service consists of singing, reciting of Scripture, hymns, etc., after which all kneel in a common prayer, closing with the Lord's prayer. Immediately after evening service the smaller children go to bed, while the larger boys and girls repair with the teachers to the school room, where they spend an hour in preparing their lessons for the following day. Immediately after study hour the intermediate school children retire, while the rest spend some time in reading, sewing and various other kinds of work or play until nine o'clock, when all are expected to go to their night's rest. Before the employees retire, one of them in each house goes through the dormitory, and sees that it is properly ventilated and that all are in the room and each child in its proper place. So ends the ordinary day with the family at the Orphans' Home.

But there are many variations from this routine. The Bethany Band practices during a part of the play hour on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, and sometimes gives a concert during the twilight hour in summer. During the winter, twenty minutes each evening, the Superintendent instructs some of the children in preparation for their confirmation on Whitsunday. On Sundays, at half-past ten in the morning, the officers, employees and all the orphans hold divine worship in the chapel. The Holy Communion is celebrated four times in the year, at half-past eight in the evening, after all the younger children

are in bed, and only those are present who are entitled to participate in the feast. No communion season is passed without an offering for some benevolent object, and all the children are encouraged to give according to their means. During the last Classical year the Bethany offerings for benevolence amounted to ninety-nine dollars. Sunday-school is held in the afternoon, for the study of the international lessons and on Sunday evening there is a simple service, under the direction of the Superintendent.

The children have much freedom to roam over the mountains to gather flowers or berries in season and for other purposes. Phonograph concerts and entertainments, under the direction of the teacher, are frequently given during the winter. Sometimes, by permission of the Superintendent, the older boys and girls assemble in the large parlor and have singing and instrumental music.

Picnics, with a special supper, at some favorite spot on the mountain; Carsonia Day, when all get a free ride to Mt. Penn and Carsonia Park, and the annual chestnut hunt are occasions which are highly enjoyed by the children.

Such is life in the Orphans' Home. As we contemplate it in a general way, we feel that these children are indeed enjoying many blessings. Yet they miss many things and are at a great disadvantage when compared with children in private homes, under the direct care and influence of parents, who take an interest in their welfare for their own sakes.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE BETHANY SCHOOLS.

THE school term lasts ten months. The daily session begins at half-past eight in the morning. There are three schools—primary, intermediate and high school. All the common elementary English branches are taught, special efforts being made to lay a good foundation. Provision is also made to teach some of the higher branches to those children who show special aptitude and have a desire and ambition to enter higher institutions. In this way a number of orphans have been prepared for admission, without conditions, to the Middle Class of a State Normal School, thus enabling them to graduate in two years. This has been done in a number of cases.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Primary School.

Reading—Ward's Rational Method in Reading, covering the work up to the third reader.

Writing—Natural slant system.

Arithmetic—Begin with conversation lessons, using objects, postponing formal number work several weeks. Teach counting by dots and with objects; counting and writing numbers up to 500; counting by twos, threes, fours, fives and tens to 100; develop numbers up to

144; teach notation and numeration to 10,000; multiplication table and Roman numerals to C. Teach fundamental operations; addition in columns to six digits; "carrying"; subtraction with smaller digits in minuend than in subtrahend; "borrowing"; multiplication with multiplier not exceeding three digits; short division.

Teach essential features of United States money, liquid, dry and linear measure and teach to read the clock.

Physiology—Teach the structure, growth, use, care and protection of the external parts of the body. Show that we get knowledge about the body and everything else through the senses.

Discuss the agencies that strengthen or weaken the body; position, eating, drinking, dressing, exercise, rest, cleanliness, etc.

Spelling—Teach beginners in accordance with instructions in Rational Method in Reading. Use the Speller of the Rational System for second and third grades.

Language—Teach pupils to talk fluently, distinctly, correctly and interestingly; written work; memorize maxims, pledges to the flag, poetry. Dictate exercises involving the technical points to be taught in punctuation, capitals and correct use of words.

Miscellaneous—The simplest elements of history, geography, drawing, music and ethics also make up a part of the daily programme.

Intermediate School.

Reading—Second, third and fourth readers; supplementary reading.

Writing—Natural slant system.

Arithmetic—Notation and numeration; application of fundamental operations; common fractions; denominate numbers; arithmetical analysis; written and oral work; practical problems including the use of scale on maps.

Physiology—

Geography—Geographical observation lessons; geographical expression by standard forms of words, pictures and maps, with reference to home grounds, farm and surrounding country; geographical interpretation of words, pictures and maps of Heidelberg township, Berks county, Pennsylvania, United States and Palestine.

History—Elementary History of Bethany Orphans' Home, grounds and institution; of Pennsylvania; of the United States. Formal text, supplementary reading and story.

Spelling—Rice's First Book, or equivalent.

Language—Steps in English, Book One, with special attention to oral expressions, letter writing and committing to memory.

Drawing—Elementary drawing.

Music—The scale, time.

Ethics.

High School.

Reading—Fourth and Fifth Readers, English Classics.

Writing—Natural slant system.

Arithmetic—Applications of fundamental operations, including common fractions and denominate numbers; decimal fractions; percentage; mensuration; arithmetical analysis; practical problems; written and oral work.

Physiology—Complete.

Geography—Political and mathematical geography complete; physical geography; commercial geography.

History—United States History, complete; review of local and state history; general history in its relation to the United States; the life history of each pupil, prepared by the pupil, for preservation at the Home.

Spelling—Rice's Second Book, or equivalent.

Language—Steps in English, Book Two, or equivalent, with special attention to oral expression, letter writing and committing to memory.

English Literature.

Book Keeping—Single entry, especially the art of keeping accounts.

Drawing.

Music.

Civics—Dole's The Young Citizen, or equivalent.

Ethics—Gow's Good Morals and Gentle Manners, or equivalent.

Special Studies for Special Students.

Elementary Algebra and Geometry.

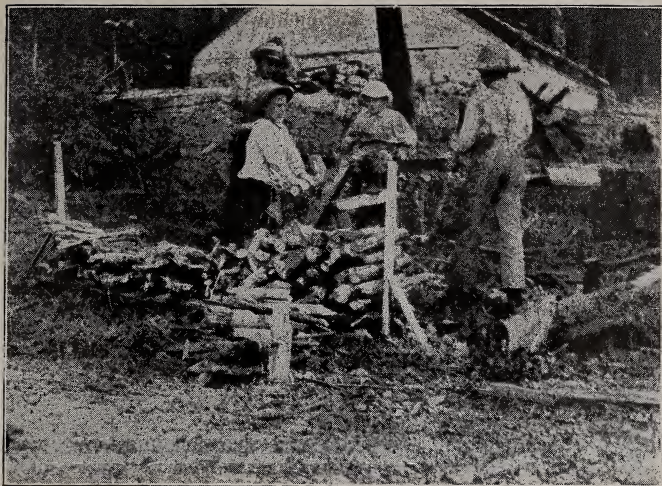
Elementary Latin.

Civil Government.

The school day is divided into four periods of ninety



GIRLS' SEWING ROOM.



BOYS SAWING WOOD.



GIRLS SCOURING TINS.



BOYS HAULING BRICKS.



BOYS PRYING STONES.



THE BEAN PICKERS.



GIRLS SEWING.

minutes each and each child goes to school three periods out of four. The classes are so arranged that every child can be out of school one period during the day without interfering with the recitations. In this way all the children get three periods of intellectual training and one period of manual training every school day for ten months of each year.

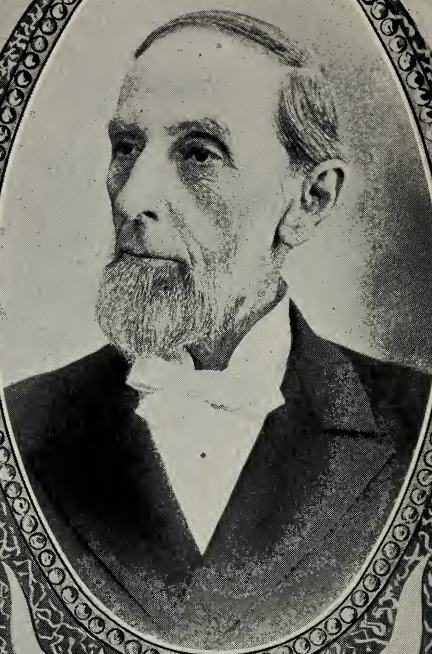
CHAPTER XVIII.

DR. BAUSMAN'S 1906 CHRISTMAS LETTER.

EARLY in December, 1906, at the suggestion of the Superintendent, the Bethany High School children wrote letters to Dr. Bausman, President of the Board of Managers. In reply to their epistles, the doctor sent the following, which was read in the Bethany chapel at the early morning service on Christmas day:

“Good morning, my dear Bethany friends. I wish you all a merry Christmas. Your little letters of love, twenty-four in number, made me feel very happy. I will try to weave their contents into a wreath of grateful joy and in spirit lay it on the cradle of ‘The Holy Child Jesus.’ ‘It never rains but it pours.’ Especially when a lot of Bethany friends take it into their hearts to overwhelm an old friend with a shower of love letters. I thank you all for this novel surprise. At first, the unusual feast seemed somewhat funny. But I did not get far until my heart grew soft and my eyes moist. Bethany has become a part of my life. I named the baby. At one of our Board meetings long ago, I asked the managers to give the Home the name of Bethany, instead of the one it had before.

“For forty years I have lived much of my life into it. This I deem one of the greatest blessings of my life. I think it made me a better man. It gave me more than it ever got from me. During these many years I have been permitted to attend nearly all its Board meetings and its anniversaries. I feel happy in being a friend of Bethany. God is the Father of the fatherless. Bethany belongs to Him. He is provid-



REV. B. BAUSMAN, D.D.
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

ing for it every day and hour. He tells many people to send boxes filled with nice things on Christmas, and to put the needed money in our treasury. And we always have enough of it.

"The Bethany people are a happy folk. Mr. and Mrs. More enjoy their work, the more so when you obey and love them as they love you.

"The members of the two Boards find great pleasure in their work. Our Board meeting days are always occasions of great joy. The members are fond of each other. One of the members told us at a meeting: 'I am engaged in a large and prosperous business, but nothing gives me so much pleasure as my being a member of this Board of Managers.'

"We all loved dear Dr. J. Z. Gerhard, and we will all miss him. He was one of our most useful members, an earnest Christian and true friend of Bethany Home. His rare professional skill was always at our bidding. We will cordially cherish his memory. With gratitude to God, let us place his name in the form of an ever-green chaplet on your Christmas tree. 'He being dead yet speaketh.'

"My dear Bethany friends, you have just come out of your clean, cozy beds to sing your early songs to the little Babe of Bethlehem. You know what a poor, cold bed the little Saviour had. Born in a stable, a coarse trough for his cradle, a helpless, homeless Babe. Poor, that He might make us rich. Let us worship Him with joyful hearts.

"The friend of Bethany sends greetings to the friends at Bethany."

Yours truly,
P. J. Clausman

CHAPTER XIX.

IN MEMORIAM.

MEN erect monuments to the memory of heroes of battlefields; to those whose eloquence swayed the masses and incited them to action. Friends erect shafts of purest marble to the memory of relatives, and often inscribe, for the supposed benefit of the public, the particular or imaginary virtues which they exhibited in life.

Sanctuaries, dedicated to the worship of the triune God, are lighted by the rays of the sun passing through beautifully colored windows, placed there as memorials by relatives or admiring friends, often of most worthy individuals, and again desecrating the house of God by calling up to the minds of worshipers the ungodly lives which some of those led who now hold the highest places in the synagogue.

Others, again, whose humble, earnest work in life was most appreciated by those who knew them best, are brought to the remembrance of the student who finds upon old records tributes of esteem and appreciation passed by some body of men in honor of their departed fellow laborer.

If such actions mean anything, and are worthy of being recorded on the minutes of an institution, in order that the memory of worthy men and their deeds

may be preserved, why let them remain buried in musty books? Heroic deeds in civil and political life are flaunted before the eyes of the world; let us then honor the memory of these men who in a quiet way attended to this work of God, by giving publicity to the honestly expressed appreciation of those whose blessed privilege it was to work with them in life for the glory of God and for the good of their fellowmen.

REV. J. S. KESSLER, D.D.

On the 20th of December, 1864, Rev. J. S. Kessler, D.D., the first regular President of the Board of Managers, departed this life, and thereby the Home sustained a great loss. Rev. Kessler was one of the first men who took an active interest in this work, and no doubt his words of counsel, his practical co-operation in the work did much to gain for it the confidence of the Church, to encourage the persons having direct charge of it, and in every way promote and advance the interests of the institution. We have no copy of the action of the Board in reference to his death.

REV. P. S. FISHER.

On May 22, 1873, Ascension Day, Rev. P. S. Fisher died, aged 68 years, 7 months and 11 days. He was buried on the 28th of May. The attendance was very large, including some forty ministers. The following action, taken by the Board, was read at the funeral by the President:

The Board of Managers of the Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., has learned with deep sorrow of the death of Rev. P. S. Fisher. After an illness of a few

days, he fell asleep in Jesus, on May 22, 1873. During six years he has been an active member of our Board. He traveled many hundred miles to attend our meetings and helped the Home with his gifts, prayers and moving addresses. His warm, loving heart drew us lovingly to him. He worked with us in our Board in harmony and love. At his visits the orphans greeted him as "Father Fisher," and this they could sincerely do. For he loved the fatherless with the tenderness of a natural father. In spirit our ninety orphans stand with us to-day at the grave of their dear father and pay him the last tribute of their grateful hearts. Through his death we and they lose a wise counsellor and a true friend.

Resolved, That the Board herewith records its hearty appreciation of the Christian character and the useful life of our departed brother. To the thousands to whom he has ministered he leaves the legacy of his earnest, blessed work, and to the Reformed Church, whose honored servant he was, the fruit of his long and faithful service. Although he shall no longer meet with us visibly, his devout prayers and self-denying love will still continue to bless our Home. Therefore, though dead, he yet speaketh. His sudden and unexpected death admonishes us, "Therefore be ye also ready."

Resolved, That we herewith tender our sincere condolence to the stricken family of our departed brother, and pray that the God of all comfort may uphold them in their sorrow.

MAJOR ADAM LEIZE.

The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home has learned with sincere sorrow of the death of one of its active members, Adam Leize. He has been a faithful member of our body since April 2, 1867. Since then he has supported the Home with a generous hand and with unwearied zeal. Seldom, and only when unavoidable, was he absent from our meetings. He devoted much time and toil to our Home. At the purchase of our present property he gave \$1,000, and later \$175 for an acre of the Manderbach farm, besides blessing the Home with many other gifts. We shall greatly miss his counsel and enlightened judgment at our future meetings. He showed a tender love for the fatherless to the end of his life. Therefore,

Resolved, That with heartfelt sorrow we record the death of our congenial and laborious co-worker in the cause of Christian charity, Adam Leize, who, after an illness of nine months, fell gently asleep, December 14, 1875, at the age of 72 years, 4 months and 8 days.

Resolved, That we hereby declare our recognition of his usefulness as a citizen, a consistent Christian and a warm and liberal supporter of our Orphans' Home. He leaves to this Board, to his bereaved family and to the Church of Christ the noble example of an humble, faithful and devout Christian.

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved family our tender Christian sympathy, as well as the assurance that our own mournful sorrow as individuals and as a Board is only second to theirs.

Resolved, That the members of this Board attend his funeral in a body.

Resolved, That a copy of this action be handed to the family of the deceased, and be published in the *Reformed Messenger*, the *Kirchenzeitung* and *Hausfreund*, and in the papers of Reading.

JUDGE DAVID SCHALL.

DIED JANUARY 22, 1877.

We, the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa., have learned with sorrow of the death of our associate, Hon. David Schall. On April 23, 1867, he became a member of our Board. Since then he attended all our meetings, save when he was prevented by the providence of God. His ripe judgment, his intelligent business views and his strict fidelity were of invaluable service in the counsels of our Board. His warm heart was aglow with sympathetic interest for the fatherless. Even when old and infirm, he continued to come to our meetings, with tottering steps, leaning on his staff, and took an active part in our deliberations. He wrought for the good work, and the good work wrought in him. We loved him as a Christian brother, and labored with him with peaceful and quiet joy. And now that he has entered into rest, we shall miss his helpful counsel and co-operation. God doeth all things well. With humble trust we bow to His sovereign and fatherly will. He helped our reverend friend to keep the faith, and to finish his course. Thankfully we will cherish his kindly memory, and lay this, a small tribute of our love, upon his bier.

Resolved, That this Board realizes with deep sorrow that in the death of Hon. David Schall we have lost an active member of our body, and that we herewith bear our hearty testimony to his Christian piety and sterling worth.

Resolved, That the death of our two oldest members (Adam Leize and David Schall) within a period of a little over a year, is to us a solemn admonition to labor faithfully at our several posts, inasmuch as life is fleeting and uncertain, and as we know not who, among our number, may next be called away.

Resolved, That this Board feel a hearty sympathy with the bereaved and mourning family, and pray that the God of all comfort may be to them a present help in trouble; and further, that a copy of this action be handed to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as far as possible, we will attend the funeral of our departed brother.

REV. CHAS. H. LEINBACH, D.D.

Another one of our members has entered into rest, ripe in years, and rich in the precious results of a long and faithful ministry. Our fellow member, Dr. Chas. H. Leinbach, fell asleep in the Lord, July 15th, in the 68th year of his age. At least in years, if not in office he was one of our oldest members. He became a member of our body in 1867. By nature and by grace he was particularly fitted to be a manager of such an institution. His tender, sympathizing heart was easily touched by the cry of the fatherless, and his hand was ever open to relieve their wants. But a few years ago

he traveled from house to house in his large field to gather help for our Home. Decided in his convictions, wise in counsel, just in his judgment, steadfast in faith and principle, we felt the great benefit of his presence, and with sadness do we now feel the loss of our dear brother in Christ. His failings, if such they may be called, "leaned to virtue's side." So strong was his sympathy for the homeless and the needy, that if a fatherless applicant presented a doubtful case, he would always invariably plead the cause of the ill-founded application and give the orphan the benefit of the doubt. As a Board of Managers, we bless God for his long and useful life, so abundant in charity and good works. Viewed from the hither side, his death seems to be a serious loss. Viewed from the yonder side, it is an unspeakable gain. We mourn, but mourn with a cheerful hope. Though dead, he yet speaketh.

Resolved, That we cherish the memory of our departed brother. His childlike piety, his devout and earnest zeal in our orphan work, as well as his genial companionship, remain to us a lasting legacy in our bereavement.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our hearty condolence and sympathy to his bereaved family, praying that the God of all consolation may comfort them in their affliction, and help them and us to follow those who through faith and patience have inherited the promises.

JOHN WIEST.

DIED AUGUST 7, 1883.

This Board has learned with sorrow of the death of

Mr. John Wiest. He departed this life at his home in Freeburg, Snyder county, Pa., on August 7, 1883, at the age of 53 years, 3 months and 12 days. He was elected a member of our Board in 1866, when the institution was still located at Bridesburg. During these seventeen years past he has in many ways shown his hearty sympathy with the fatherless, and his practical zeal in behalf of their welfare. Of late years he could no longer attend all of our meetings, by reason of his remote residence and enfeebled health.

The last time he met with us was at the dedication of our new building, in November last. So great was his interest in the institution that, with his greatly reduced physical condition, he traveled quite a distance to be present on that memorable occasion. His life was the hard-fought battle of a conscientious, earnest, Christian man; his death brought him the crown of victory and abiding peace. We cordially bear our testimony to the noble traits of his Christian character, as an affable gentleman, an amiable and trustful friend, and zealous co-worker in the cause of Christian beneficence. Although we shall have to drop his name from the roll of our members in the flesh, our memory shall enroll his name in the growing number of sainted friends of our dear Orphans' Home in our Father's house above.

Resolved, That this Board herewith tender their hearty condolence to the family of the deceased, and pray that the God of the fatherless and the Friend of the widow may keep and sustain his bereaved widow and his fatherless children.

HON. JOSEPH LAUBACH.

DIED NOVEMBER 16, 1884.

Our friend and co-laborer, Hon. Joseph Laubach, has entered into rest. After some months of patient suffering, he fell asleep at his home in Bethlehem, Pa., on November 16th, in the 75th year of his age. As members of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, we gratefully record our appreciation of his worth. We tenderly cherish his memory as that of a good citizen, a true friend and an exemplary Christian. Nearly twenty years ago he became a member of our Board. At that time the Home was still in its infancy. Since then it has grown to its present condition of prosperity. In the work of its advancement he bore a very praiseworthy share. Upon this altar of the fatherless he laid with a liberal hand of his means, his influence and his time. Notwithstanding his numerous duties in other directions, he was rarely absent from any of our regular or special meetings. On a stormy day in October, he was present at the last regular meeting of the Board. He rejoiced in the triumphs and sympathized in the trials of our Home. A wrong done to it was a personal grief to him. His loving heart and frank, simple manners endeared him to every member of the Board, as well as to the inmates of the institution. From the least to the greatest, our orphans always greeted his visits with joy. To-day a shadow has settled upon their hearts, because his smiling face will greet them no more on earth. The death of six of our members in the last ten years ad-

monishes us to work while it is called to-day, before the night cometh, when no man can work.

As a Board of Managers, our association with him was very pleasant. How often we took sweet counsel together, and mingled our hearts and voices in the breaking of bread, in the transaction of business, and of prayer!

His homespun humor and rustic logic helped to solve many knotty questions and to get comfortably over rough places. In church and state he served his fellow citizens and his denomination in various positions of public trust. In few, perhaps, did he serve with such unmingled pleasure as in that of our Board. He was a *character*, everybody's friend, and unlike everybody else. To us, as to many others, his life has been a benediction, and his death a personal bereavement. As representatives of the fatherless and their many friends on earth and in heaven, we reverently lay our chaplet on the bier of this honest man, plain citizen and humble child of God.

Resolved, That we extend our condolence to the family and friends of the deceased; and further, that, as far as possible, we attend his funeral in a body.

WILLIAM D. GROSS.

DIED DECEMBER 7, 1884.

The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home with sincere sorrow hereby records the death of William D. Gross, during a period of twenty-five years one of its most active members.

As treasurer of the Home for an equal length of time, he performed a large amount of unremunerated labor,

and performed it exceedingly well. He departed this life at his home in Philadelphia, on December 7, in the sixty-third year of his age. A man so humble and meek, so mild in his demeanor, charitable in his judgment of others, affable and gentle in spirit, clear and firm in his convictions; so forbearing towards others, so severe in judging himself, was peculiarly fitted to have in charge the important trust which a grateful Church has committed to his hands. His faith was as simple and trustful, and his conscience as tender and pure as a child. Keenly sensitive to the semblance of wrong, he seemed to live and act as under the eye of God. Such a loving man, so full of pitying, helpful sympathy, for the needy, brought rare qualifications to the office of treasurer of the Home. He was one of its most persistent and most liberal supporters. Many of his gifts were given in secret. Repeatedly he advanced various amounts of his own funds to relieve for a time, our depleted treasury. Whilst they are not recorded in our books, they are doubtless on record in the book of eternity. Through his kindly correspondence with the friends of the Home, he endeared himself to many who had never seen him. He loved our institution, and enjoyed his visits there, more than those to any other place. Next to his own family, he tenderly loved the fatherless, and delighted to mingle with them.

We, who have so long been associated with him in our labor of love, now more than ever feel what he was to us and to others.

Resolved, That we gratefully acknowledge the good-

ness of God in endowing our now departed brother with natural and spiritual gifts, above all with that constraining love of Christ which enabled him to perform such valuable services to the Church he loved, and to leave to others the legacy of a well-spent life.

Resolved, That the death of two of the members of our Board within a period of less than a month, solemnly admonishes us to be active and faithful in our Christian calling during the short and uncertain life allotted us upon the earth.

Resolved, That our Christian condolence is hereby tendered to the family and friends of the deceased; and further, that as far as possible we will attend his funeral in a body.

GEORGE GELBACH.

DIED SEPTEMBER 30, 1886.

The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home is again called upon to record the death of one of its members. Mr. Geo. Gelbach departed this life on September 30, 1886, at the age of 76 years.

In years, as well as in office, he was the father of our Board. He became a member in 1865, at a time when the institution was in its infancy. During the various trials of its early history, as well as its subsequent mission, he proved himself, by word and deed, one of its most helpful supporters. His calm disposition, well-balanced judgment and ripe experience were of great value and weight in the deliberations of our body. With considerate charity he appreciated the conscientious views of those differing from him.

He took an intelligent interest in the progress of Christ's kingdom, and rejoiced in the prosperity and success of every good cause. In this Board, as in other Boards of the Church, his death will be seriously felt for years to come. We sincerely mourn the loss of a cordial and helpful co-worker in the cause of the fatherless, no less than the loss of a personal friend and brother in Christ.

We thank God for his long and useful life, so abundant in good works, so faithful in kind deeds. His season of laborious serving has changed into the joys of harvest. He rests from his labors, and his works do follow him. At the end of a long and busy life, he closed his earthly career "in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in its season."

May the labors of his life be abundantly sanctified, not only to our own institution, in which he took such a zealous interest, but to every Christian enterprise for which he labored, and to every heart affected by his death.

This Board hereby tenders its Christian condolence to the family of our deceased brother, and prays that the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort may console them in their sore bereavement.

HENRY WIRT.

DIED DECEMBER 9, 1890.

The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa., has learned with sorrow of the death of Elder Henry Wirt, of Hanover, Pa. For a period of thirteen years he has been an active and helpful member of this Board. His loving and sym-

pathetic heart responded promptly to the claims of the fatherless. His large experience in practical affairs and his ripe judgment were of great help to us in the management of the institution. And when, by reason of his growing infirmities, he could no longer meet with us in person, his contributions assured us of his helpful co-operation. Very pleasing was his parting blessing bestowed upon the Home and a bequest of a thousand dollars towards its support.

Resolved, That this Board with grateful esteem cherish the memory of its late co-laborer, Henry Wirt, as a man of great purity of character, abundant in acts of well-doing and a true-hearted Christian brother.

Resolved, That we hereby tender our cordial condolence to his bereaved widow and relatives, and commend them to the God of all consolation and hope.

DR. JOSEPH COBLENTZ.

DIED AUGUST 3, 1899.

This Board with saddened hearts hereby records the death of Dr. Joseph Coblentz, one of its former members. He departed this life on August 3, 1899, aged 79 years, 6 months and 13 days. He was a member of this Board for some years.

In addition to his ordinary duties, he served as physician to the Home during a number of years without compensation. As an educated layman and physician of rare attainments, his services were of great value to the institution.

This Board bears its cordial testimony to the personal worth of our former co-worker in the cause of

the fatherless and shall cherish his memory with grateful appreciation and respect.

Resolved, That the sympathy of this Board be hereby tendered to his bereaved family and friends.

WILLIAM R. LAWFER.

DIED SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home sincerely mourns the death of William R. Lawfer, of Allentown, Pa. For a period of seventeen years he was one of our most active members. Without stint, he gave us the benefit of his vast business experience and practical tact in the management of the institution. His untiring energy and personal popularity mustered multitudes from the Lehigh Valley at our anniversaries and helped to make our annual festivals great gatherings of the hosts of the Lord.

We loved him and he loved us with the sincerity of a natural brother. His warm heart was larger than his private business, in a certain sense, larger even than his family. Upon hundreds of fatherless children he lavished the richness of his father-heart. They clamored for his little speeches at the services of the Board, abounding with pithy incidents, dipped out of wide experience. His inventive mind was ever upon the alert to devise for them new means of instruction and pleasure. One of the busiest men in his own affairs, he always found time for his orphan home work. For years he loved to spend Ascension Day with a number of friends at the Home. At the last meeting, it was already noticed by these friends that his health had begun to fail. They little expected, however,



CROWD AROUND FRICK COTTAGE ANNIVERSARY DAY.

that his own ascension was so near at hand. It is well—yet we miss our now sainted brother. To-day hundreds of our orphans at the Home and scattered over many states, in spirit, mourn with us at the bier of their loving friend, William R. Lawfer. May God sanctify to us and to the cause his life and his death. We praise God for the valuable service which our deceased brother gave to Bethany Orphans' Home for a period of seventeen years. We tenderly condole with his family on their sore bereavement and commend them to the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort.

LOUIS KRAEMER.

DIED DECEMBER 15, 1903.

Mr. Louis Kraemer, who departed this life on December 15, 1903, was a member of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home for a period of fourteen years. In recording his death, this Board wishes to place on record an expression of the high regard in which Mr. Kraemer was held by every member of this body.

A man of warm sympathies, decided convictions, liberal spirit and amiable disposition, he was by nature and by grace well qualified to render helpful service to the cause of caring for the poor and needy. He was always in attendance at the meetings of the Board when it was possible for him to be present. As a man of affairs, his judgment and counsel were of great value in the transaction of the business pertaining to the material management of the Home.; while his sympathetic nature always prompted him to use his

influence in behalf of the appeals for help, being willing to err on the side of devising too liberally for the fatherless rather than that any needy one should suffer for want of help.

Not only did he promptly and liberally support any forward movement for the improvement of the Home, but he frequently spoke of enlarging along various lines in which he hoped to take an active part. To this end, also, in his will, he devised the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, to be used, in the judgment of the Board, in the enlargement and improvement of the gymnasium and the Boys' Industrial Department.

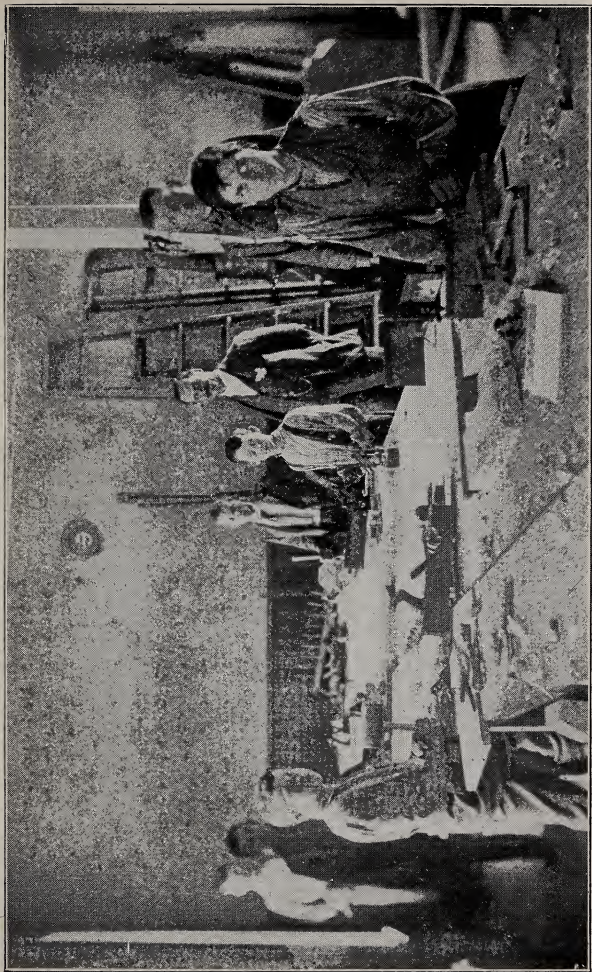
We shall hereafter miss him in our Board meetings, but will fondly cherish his memory as that of a congenial friend, a helpful co-laborer, an earnest and faithful steward and a true man of God.

DR. JEROME Z. GERHARD.

DIED NOVEMBER 20, 1906.

The vacancy in the Board of Managers, occasioned by the death of Mr. George Gelbach, was filled in connection with the regular meeting on January 6, 1887, by the unanimous election of Dr. Jerome Z. Gerhard, who served faithfully up to the time of his death, when the Board adopted the following minute:

"The Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, having heard, with painful surprise, of the unexpected death of their beloved associate, Dr. Jerome Z. Gerhard, hastens to extend its sincere sympathy to the bereaved family and to unite with the many friends of the departed in lamenting his early death.



BOYS AT WORK IN CARPENTER SHOP.

"In our work for the Orphans' Home we shall keenly feel his loss. Being a man of wide and deep experience, a thoughtful observer and a wise and prudent counsellor, he was well fitted, by nature and training, to render valuable services in the management of a large institution. With rare devotion to duty, he consecrated his talents and attainments unreservedly to the cause of humanity, and, though hard pressed by the exacting demands of a laborious profession, he yet found time to attend the meetings of the Board regularly and to perform faithfully all the duties assigned to him as a member.

"As was to be expected, Dr. Gerhard took special interest in safeguarding the sanitary condition of the Home and in promoting the health and comfort of the employes and the children. He was a zealous advocate of the improvement of the farmer's house, the refitting of the Home kitchen, the re-furnishing of the Home bedrooms and the enlargement of the Home dairy, orchards and gardens. He rejoiced greatly over the fine physical condition of the children and urged the importance of the care of the body as a good foundation for the development of the mind and the cultivation of the spirit.

"Dr. Gerhard's constant aim was the perfection of the Home in every respect, and in striving toward this, he thoroughly appreciated the difficulties to be overcome, generously sympathized with every earnest effort to make improvements and charitably bore with the shortcomings of the faithful; yet, with sweet reasonableness, he persisted in his unwavering purpose

to secure for Bethany and its children all the benefits of an ideal home.

"While Dr. Gerhard's bodily presence has gone from us, the memory of his kindness, goodness and usefulness will remain with us, and we will continue to cherish his ideals as a dominating feature of the vision of the greater and better Bethany that is yet to be.

"We present to the bereaved family of Dr. Gerhard a copy of this minute, that it may ever be to them an assurance of the love and esteem in which we held the departed, and, in doing so, we pray that the God of all comfort and consolation may fill their hearts with that peace which the world cannot give and cannot take away.

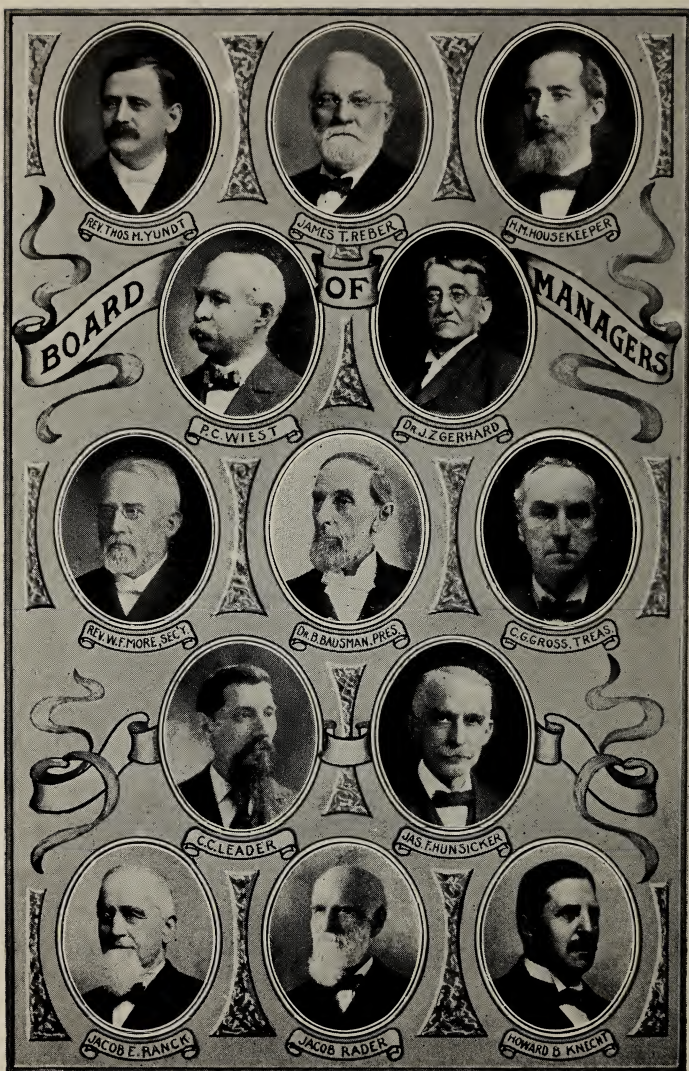
"We publish this minute in the church papers as a well-deserved tribute to the memory of a good man, who having borne the burden and heat of the day, was faithful unto death and has now entered into rest.

JACOB RADER.

DIED MARCH 3, 1907.

Elder Jacob Rader became a member of the Board of Managers on January 8, 1885. He was selected on the strength of his well-deserved reputation for business integrity and Christian character, which had made him a man of commanding influence throughout the eastern section of the state.

The event proved the wisdom of the choice; for although Elder Rader was at the head of a large and exacting business, he rarely missed a meeting of the Board, being present at all but sixteen of the ninety-



REV. THOS. M. YUNDT

JAMES T. REBER

M. M. HOUSEKEEPER

BOARD

OF

MANAGERS

P. C. WIEST

DR. J. Z. GERHARD

REV. W. F. MORE, SECT.

DR. B. BAUSMAN, PRES.

C. G. GROSS, TREAS.

C. C. LEADER

JAS. F. HUNSICKER

JACOB E. RANCK

JACOB RADER

HOWARD B. KNECHT

LADIES

VISITING

& ADVISORY

COMMITTEE



MRS. B. BAUGHMAN, PRES.



MRS. W. F. MOORE, SEC.



MRS. E. L. INWOOD, TREAS.



MRS. M. CHIDSEY



MRS. J. Z. GERHARD, VICE PRES.



MRS. B. FACKENTHAL



MRS. A. KLEINBACH



MISS SALLIE LENTZ



MRS. THOS. M. TUNNOT



MRS. J. K. BOWMAN



MRS. HORACE STORA



MRS. WM. DESHLER



MRS. F. G. HOBSON



MRS. REBECCA PAINTER



MRS. KATE A. EUSTON



MRS. JOHN F. MOYER

five regular and special meetings held since the day of his election. This regular attendance may be taken as an indication of the measure of his devotion to the cause of the orphans.

Elder Rader was a useful member of the Board. He gave it the full benefit of his ripe business experience and his thorough knowledge of men and measures. He was positive in his convictions, a staunch defender of the views which to him seemed right, a determined advocate of the measures which he thought would safeguard and promote the interests of the Home; yet with it all, genial and kindly considerate of the views and feelings of his associates in the Board.

Elder Rader was a watchful and effective advocate of the claims of the Home on the floor of Synod and Classis, as well as in his home congregation and Sunday-school. It seemed to be his delight to speak of the Home and for the Home, and, speaking from manifest convictions, he always spoke with telling effect. His deeds added emphasis to his words, and the remembrance of them will continue to inspire devotion to the cause which he so dearly loved.

And now Elder Rader has entered into rest. We shall miss his patriarchal presence, his hearty greeting, his earnest counsel, his warm friendship, his loyal devotion. But we will cherish his memory and labor on in the conviction that in spirit he is still with us in the administration of the trust committed to our hands. May we, like he, be faithful until death shall set us free.

CHAPTER XX.

IN MEMORIAM: REV. THOMAS M. YUNDT.

REV. THOMAS M. YUNDT, son of Thomas and Eliza (Marks) Yundt, was born near Allentown, February 10, 1858. Next to the youngest of a family of nine children and motherless before five years old, he was, unconsciously, being prepared for the great work in the orphans' cause. He was baptized in infancy by the Rev. Joseph Dubbs, pastor of Zion's Reformed Church, Allentown, Pa., the church in which the General Synod met where the Mission Board was organized by which he was elected superintendent; and was confirmed in Zion's church, by Rev. N. S. Strasburger, at the age of fifteen years.

His father was a farmer and young Thomas remained on the farm until he was eighteen years of age. He worked for a time in a machine shop. He taught public school for two terms. He received his preparatory training in the public schools, West Chester Normal, Muhlenberg Academic Department and prepared for college privately under James L. Schadt, Esq., and the Rev. Dr. A. R. Horne, and entered Muhlenberg College in the fall of 1878, and was graduated in the class of 1882. He studied theology in the Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn., and was graduated in 1885, with the degree of B.D. During his seminary course, he worked in the summer vacations under the

auspices of the American Home Missionary Society, at Centerville, Dak., and South Milwaukee, Wis. He was licensed to preach by the Lehigh Classis, in 1885. His examining committee consisted of Revs. G. S. Wagner, D.D., and N. C. Schaeffer, D.D. He was ordained by Lebanon Classis in 1886. In the fall of 1885, he took charge of a mission church in Kansas City, Mo., and was there only a short time when an unexpected and unsolicited call was extended to him to become superintendent of Bethany Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa. He took charge of the Home as superintendent and Mrs. Yundt as matron in the spring of 1886. They closed their work at the Home on August 1, 1904. During this time, they had 473 children in charge, five new buildings were erected, sewers built, water works erected, lawns enlarged, additional land purchased and an endowment fund of \$27,000 raised.

Mr. Yundt was pastor of the Alsace Reformed church during the winter of 1904-5. In June, 1905, he was elected to and accepted the office of Superintendent of Home Missions.

Rev. Mr. Yundt was a member of the National Conference of Charities and Correction. He wrote many articles for the papers, also a history of Bethany Home, and traveled, preached and lectured in behalf of the Home throughout Eastern Pennsylvania and Maryland. He helped to organize and was a director in the Womelsdorf Union Bank.

He was married in 1885 to Minerva A. Koons, of

Allentown, Pa. They had five children, four of whom are still living.

Funeral services were held at the late residence of the deceased, in Reading, on Tuesday afternoon. They were largely attended by friends in the city. Rev. W. F. More, of the Orphans' Home, conducted the services and delivered an address. Fifty children from the Home were present and sang the hymn, "Hear What the Voice from Heaven Proclaims." A quartette of the employees chanted several selections. Among the many floral tributes was a beautiful design of trailing arbutus, from the orphan children.

On Wednesday morning, April 24, a short service was held at the house, after which the body was taken to Allentown, where it lay in state in Zion church, from 12 to 1:30 o'clock, after which further funeral services were held, the edifice being crowded with relatives and friends of the departed. Rev. E. R. Eschbach, D.D., of Frederick, Md., President of the Board of Home Missions, preached the sermon. Rev. Dr. B. Bausman, of Reading, and Rev. W. F. More, of Womelsdorf, delivered eulogies on the life of the departed. Rev. Paul Leinbach, of Easton, and Rev. H. M. J. Klein, pastor of the church, assisted in the services. Private interment was made in West End Cemetery, Allentown.

EXTRACTS FROM FUNERAL ADDRESSES.

A BROTHER BELOVED.

BY REV. B. BAUSMAN, D.D.

Such was Rev. Thomas M. Yundt to his numerous friends. A genial, loyal friend; a faithful servant of

Christ, loving and beloved. It has pleased the Lord to call him to his reward. On Friday, April 19th, at 5 p. m., he fell asleep in Jesus. He fell at his post in the prime of life, less than fifty years of age. His comparatively brief, but beautiful, career, was abundant in good works. We loved him for what he was and for what he wrought. God be praised for giving him to us so long.

During more than eighteen years, he and his estimable wife bore on their hearts the nursing, fostering care of Bethany Orphans' Home. With hundreds of fatherless and motherless children, they lived and loved their beautiful lives; these mourn his departure with filial sorrow. Though dead, he yet speaketh.

"O, though oft depressed and lonely,
All my fears are cast aside;
If I but remember only
Such as these have lived and died."

He will be greatly missed as Superintendent of Home Missions. In his larger sphere, he won the loving regard of many people all over the Church. With a tender heart, I lay this little chaplet on his coffin.

FROM THE ADDRESS OF REV. W. F. MORE.

"Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." John 13: 1.

These words were spoken by our precious Saviour when He was near the end of His earthly life. Every one who is familiar with the history of our Lord knows that He fully suited the sentiment and the action to the word. For even in His dying agonies He com-

mended His weeping, heart-broken mother to the tender care of His beloved disciple. "Having loved his own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end."

What was absolutely true of our Lord Himself is also measurably true of His faithful followers, and we, therefore, take no unwarranted liberty when we apply these words to the life and death of our departed friend and brother, the Rev. Thomas M. Yundt. He also loved his own which are in the world, and he loved them unto the end. Yea, his love grew, in intensity, spirituality and preciousness as the light of eternity brought out more and more clearly the enduring values of life. At the time when wasting sickness tried the mettle of his soul, he bore most impressive witness of his love for his own. How well I recall my last conversation with him, on Good Friday morning, in his room at the Sanitarium! Too weak to sit up, and speaking with considerable difficulty, but with much earnestness, he gave expression to many things which seemed to burden his mind and to be waiting for utterance before his little remaining strength would ebb away and the light of his mind would fail. In the very midst of his conversation, he chanced to look out of the only window in his little room and noticed my wife and daughters walking along the beautiful mountain side. Then, as though in his estimation far more important than the subject of our previous conversation, with most impressive voice and gesture, he said, "Brother, do not neglect your own. You have the care of many orphan children. Care for them well

but don't neglect your own. Give your children all the joy you can. Don't neglect your own, don't neglect your own." In that never-to-be-forgotten admonition, uttered with all the solemnity that attaches to the waning hours of life, I see the most convincing proof that he cherished his own and that having loved them, he loved them unto the end.

It is, however, one of the distinguishing marks of a Christian that, while he loves his own, his affections go far beyond the narrow bounds of those of his own flesh. "Henceforth I know no man after the flesh," says the great apostle, and if the ordinary Christian fails to reach that exalted eminence, he must, in some measure at least, begin to know man "after the Spirit." This is pre-eminently true of those who, like Brother Yundt, come into most intimate spiritual relations with others in the conduct of an Orphans' Home. The orphan children become one's own in the Spirit. The Bethany children whom Brother Yundt fathered he also looked upon as his own. He loved them, and he loved them to the end.

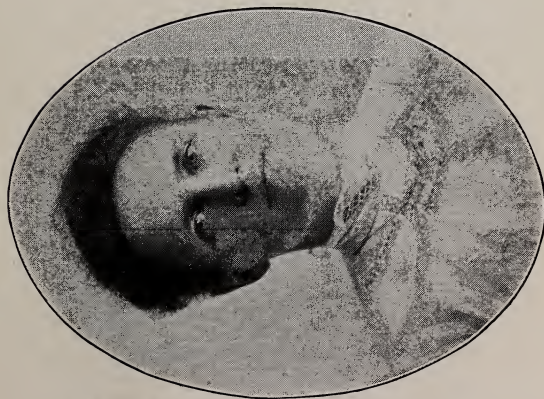
Six weeks ago, on March 8th, he was with us for the last time, and he remained with us over night, partly, at least, in order that he might give the children a treat in the way of a magic lantern exhibition. He did this at much inconvenience to himself, for then already he was seriously ill, and much in need of the comforts of his own home. But it was his suggestion and strongly-expressed desire to do this for the children, and it was the last time that he could gratify his heart by giving them pleasure. I helped him to prepare the

lantern and to select the slides for the occasion. This simple service was an epitome of his entire life. With a keen insight into child nature, he insisted on some "funny pictures" for the little folks, but still more strongly did he insist that most of the pictures should be instructive and inspiring. How wisely considerate he was! His love for the orphan children extended not only to his end, but it was much concerned also for their welfare unto their end. It is eminently fitting, therefore, that among the many beautiful floral tributes there should be one from the Bethany children. It is made of the wild flowers of the mountain, which the departed liked so well—a funeral pillow for the Bethany father—to typify the rest remaining for the weary child of God.

"Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep."

It is significant when a very busy man thus pauses for an hour to give pleasure and instruction to orphan children.

But the love which on this occasion expressed itself in this way was naturally concerned also for the greater things of more far-reaching and abiding importance to the well-being of the Home and its inmates. In that last conversation to which I have already referred, how earnestly he urged the election of good men to fill the vacancies in the Board of Managers. Selfish, personal ambition dare not be gratified; mere geographical considerations must not govern the choice. The new men must be good men. They *may* be rich, they *should* be influential, but they *must* be good—good for something, large-hearted, liberal-



MRS. LEE S. CLYMER,
Newly Elected Member of the
Ladies' Committee.



JOHN N. LAWFER,
Newly Elected Member of the
Board of Managers.

mind, full of the Holy Ghost and of wisdom. "You must have men who will take an interest and stand by you, or you cannot endure the strain." To good men only would he entrust the temporal and spiritual interests of the orphan children. He loved them unto the end, and his love would provide for them unto their end.

Much that is best and most useful at the Orphans' Home will remain as an enduring monument to the zeal and energy of Thomas M. Yundt. But in addition to this, it would be altogether fitting that his life-long devotion to Bethany as an institution should receive special recognition and commemoration in the way of an abiding memorial bearing his honored name. And in this connection, I can think of nothing more in keeping with his practical good sense and his general plan for the improvement of the Bethany property than a "Yundt Memorial Gateway," at the entrance to the Bethany grounds; and let this gateway be erected by the boys and girls who received the benefit of his fostering care during their stay at the Orphans' Home.

* * * * *

To-day we bring his body home for burial with his kindred. This section in which he was born, this city in which the sainted Lawfer discovered his boyhood virtues and gauged the merit of his youthful worth; this valley from whence thousands yearly came to cheer him in his work; this section, this city, this valley is entitled to the honor of his sepulture.

Meanwhile his spirit has gone forward to join the

innumerable throng of those who labored in the Lord and who died in the faith. Late in the evening following the day of his death, when the home was all pervaded with the stillness of the night; when my heart was filled with sorrow and my head was bowed with grief, I sat and mused and pondered till in vision I could see the goodly company of Gross and Gelbach, Wirt and Lawfer, Kraemer and Gerhard, Rader and Yundt, all lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death now no longer divided. For, one by one, they have all been gathered home into that place

“Where the saints of all ages in harmony meet
 Their Saviour and brethren transported to greet;
 While the anthems of rapture unceasingly roll
 And the smile of the Lord is the feast of the soul.”

The Board of Managers adopted the following minute:

REV. THOMAS M. YUNDT.

DIED APRIL 19, 1907.

Again we are called upon to mourn the loss of a most valuable co-worker, in the death of our friend and brother, Thomas M. Yundt. Were we to rest our faith and build our hope on mortal man, we might well tremble for our future, while we think of Gerhard, Rader and Yundt, seemingly so indispensable to our beloved Bethany, yet all now called away. But though the arm of flesh may fail us, the eternal God remains our refuge and underneath are and ever will be the everlasting arms.

It will be readily admitted that Brother Yundt possessed unusual qualifications for membership

in our Board. By nature he was kindly, considerate and warmly sympathetic. For eighteen years he served as superintendent of the Home, and with unwearied enthusiasm he labored to transform the sentiments of his heart into an ideal institution for the care, development and training of God's bereaved little ones. Thus he had come to understand thoroughly the needs, the possibilities and the limitations of the work. The wisdom gleaned from his experience as superintendent he cheerfully, but not officiously, placed at the service of the board. He was zealous for the cause, but his was not a zeal without knowledge, not sentiment without service, not authority without sympathy. In Orphans' Home work, he knew what was possible, he insisted upon progress, he recognized the difficulties, he sympathized with honest efforts and he helped with all his heart, with all his soul, with all his mind and with all his strength.

When Brother Yundt became a member of the Board, he had a more practical and thorough knowledge of the work than anyone else connected with the management of the institution; he, more than any other, had a vital interest in the preservation and proper development of the institution, for he had lived the best part of his life into it. He, probably more than any other, appreciated the tremendous risk of putting this work into new and untried hands. He was an invaluable counsellor in this trying time of transition. His patience and his sympathy with the new superintendent will never be forgotten; his wis-

dom and forethought were marvelous and his gentle courtesy and unobtrusive helpfulness can never be excelled.

Brother Yundt had a large place in the hearts of all the children. They looked for his coming and delighted in his presence. His cheerful greetings, his kind encouragement, his tender sympathy and his wise counsel will linger as a pleasant memory in the minds of all who ever came under his watchful care.

The Board of Managers feels that in making this minute on the death of their late associate, they give but feeble and imperfect expression to their estimate of his worth as a man and citizen; as the friend of the children and the superintendent of the Home; as a member of the Board of Managers and as a brother beloved in Christ.

On earth, having been found faithful in that which is least, he was made ruler over many things; in heaven he will forever enjoy the fruit of his labors in the joy of his Lord.

CHAPTER XXI.

LIST OF NAMES OF FORMER AND PRESENT INMATES.

IN the following pages we endeavor to give a complete list of those who were at any time regular inmates of this Home. The list may not be quite complete or correct, the records having been burned with the building in 1881; but we have used strong efforts to make it complete.

Many of the girls have married, and so changed their names. The maiden names are only given. Those marked with a * have died.

Caroline Engel was the first one that entered the Home.

The total number cared for up to January 1, 1907, is 857.

1863-1888.

Abbott, Hattie.
Antrim, Amos.
Armstrong, Chas W.
Arndt, Edward.

1888-1906.

Althouse, Thomas.
Angstadt, George.
Aulenbach, William.
Aulenbach, Eva.
Aulenbach, Ira.
Aulenbach, Jeremiah.

1863-1888.

Bampson, Richard.
Barkdoll, Elsie.
Barkdoll, George.
Barthel, Emma L.
Barthel, Franklin.

Barthel, Ida C.
Barthel, Stella L.
Beaver, Franklin.*
Becker, Harry.
Bennethum, Franklin.
Bennethum, Wm. H.
Bender, Kate.
Bellowsford, Edward.
Blestine, H. M.
Benson, Wm. Henry.
Benson, Clementina.
Benson, Mary J.
Berger, Henry.
Bierman, Samuel.
Bilger, Carrie.
Bilger, Frank.
Binckley, Peter.
Bletcher, William.

Bœhringer, Carolina.
 Bœhringer, Katie.
 Bœhringer, Herman.
 Bœhringer, Johanna.
 Bœhringer, Mary.
 Bohler, Annie.
 Bohler, Elenora B.
 Botts, William.
 Bowman, Garret.
 Breidinger, Anson.
 Bricker, Lizzie.
 Bricker, J. Frank.
 Bright, Emma.
 Bright, Virginia.
 Brown, Daniel.
 Brown, Martha.
 Brown, Otto L.
 Burk, Carrie G.
 Bryant, Annie.
 Bryan, Clay.
 Buckley, Charles.

1888-1906.

Bachman, Bessie.
 Badger, John.
 Baer, Robert.
 Baer, Edward.
 Baer, Minerva.
 Bagely, George.
 Bagely, Margaret.
 Baily, John.
 Barthold, John.
 Beck, Charles.
 Beck, Harold.
 Becker, Clarence.
 Becker, Maud.
 Becker, Victor.
 Becker, Frank.
 Becker, Winfield.
 Behler, Robert.
 Behler, John.
 Berkenstock, Howard.
 Berkenstock, Lee.
 Berkenstock, Effie.
 Bilger, Harral.
 Bingaman, Clara.
 Bingaman, Sallie.

Binner, Henry.
 Bohner, Benjamin.
 Boner, Maud.
 Bolan, May.
 Bolan, Frank.
 Bonser, Ada.
 Bortz, Sallie.
 Bowman, Nora.
 Bowman, Lester.
 Bowman, Dewitt.
 Bowman, Paul.
 Bowman, Martha.
 Brey, Lizzie.
 Bricker, Joseph.
 Bright, Gussie.
 Brown, Edward.
 Brown, Joseph.
 Brown, Alfred.
 Brown, Harry.
 Brown, Alice.
 Brown, Pearl.
 Brown, Irvin.
 Brown, Clara.
 Brubaker, Cyrus.
 Bruner, Wilson.
 Bruner, Leroy.
 Bucher, Edward.
 Bucher, Norman.
 Butzer, Irene.

1863-1888.

Cauler, Wm. L.
 Clack, Henry B.
 Clack, Oren.
 Clack, William.
 Clement, Martha.
 Clemmens, Eddie.*
 Clemmens, Willie.
 Conner, Benjamin.*
 Conner, Henry.
 Conner, Andreas J.
 Cox, C. W.
 Cristwell, Alma.
 Crook, Alice V.
 Culp, Charity.
 Cunningham, George.
 Cunningham, Mary E.

1888-1906.

Calwell, Maud.
Calwell, Ethel.
Calwell, Dora.
Care, David.
Care, Jesse.
Carle, Ralph.
Cassel, Mary.
Cassel, Clayton.
Clader, Elmer.
Coffman, Morris.
Conrad, Ralph.
Cook, Edith.
Crist, Mabel.
Crist, Florence,
Crist, Cullen.

1863-1888.

Davis, Robert.
Dennison, Robert.
Dittman, Frederick.
Dotterer, Matthias.
Doyle, Katie.
Dunkle, Annie.

1888-1906.

Davis, Eva.
Davis, Raymond.
Deegan, Milton.
Deegan, Florence.
Deihm, Alfred.
Delancy, Alfred.
Delancy, Thomas.
Dengler, William.
Dengler, John.
Dissinger, Edna.
Dissinger, Elsie.
Donecker, Helen.
Donecker, Paul.
Drissel, Jacob.
Drissel, Anna.

1863-1888.

Ebert, Clara J.
Ebert, Mahala V.
Elser, Annie.
Ehly, Franklin.
Ehly, Walter.
Engel, Carolina.

Englehart, Annie E.
Englehart, Rosanna.*
English, Nellie G.
English, Eva M.
Ehrhart, George.

1888-1906.

Eby, Elmer.
Eby, Ivan.
Ehrle, Matilda.
Ehrle, Emma.
Ehrle, John.
Evans, David.
Evans, James.
Evans, Sarah.
Ernst, Mabel.

1863-1888.

Fatzinger, Emma.
Fatzinger, James.
Feather, Ambrose.
Fegley, Clinton O.
Fegley, Milton.
Fehr, Rebecca.
Fink, Alpheus D.
Fogel, Henry.
Fogel, Frantz John.
Fogel, Philippine.
Force, Wm. D.
Fox, Emma.
Fritchey, Theodore.
Fritz, John.
Fry, Agnes (or Kate).
Fry, Samuel.

1888-1906.

Faust, Ammon.
Faust, Thomas.
Faust, Jonas.
Fegley, Hattie.
Fegley, Paul.
Fehr, James.
Fehr, John.
Fenstermacher, Horace.
Fenstermacher, Walter.
Fenstermacher, Harry.
Fishburn, Levi.
Fishburn, Edward.
Flair, Beatty.

Florest, Claud.
 Fralich, Ada.
 Fralich, Annie.
 Frantz, William.
 Fritz, Frederick.
 Fritz, Edward.
 Fatcher, Ray.
 1863-1888.
 Galbraith, Fred.
 Gantenbein, John.
 Geary, Elmer.
 Geary, George.
 Geary, Mellie.
 Gerhard, Lyman.*
 Gerhard, W. D.
 Gerhart, Elmer.
 Gerhart, Harvey.
 Gibson, Walter.
 Gilbert, George.
 Ginkinger, Benjamin.
 Ginkinger, Laurence.
 Ginkinger, John.
 Glassey, Rachel.
 Gohl, Isabella.
 Gombar, Amos B.
 Gombar, Emily R.
 Gombar, Jacob M.
 Good, Jacob.
 Gordon, Hattie.
 Gordon, Katie.
 Gower, Nettie.
 Gower, Sylvester.
 Greenawalt, Charles.
 Greninger, David.
 Greninger, Frank.
 Greninger, Newton.
 Grosch, Ellen.
 Grosch, Halbert.
 Gross, Margaretta.
 Grownier, John W.
 Grownier, Sallie.
 Grownier, Susan.
 1888-1906.
 Garlin, Russell.
 Garlin, Leslie.
 Gerhard, Harry.

Gerhard, Howard.
 Glen, Anna.
 Greb, Walter.
 Greiner, Henry.
 Greiner, William.
 Gruerp, Gilbert.
 Gruger, William.
 Gruger, Elise.
 Gutelius, Daniel.
 Guth, Mary.
 1863-1888.
 Hague, Emil.
 Hacker, Henry.
 Hahs, Ada.
 Hahs, Lilly.
 Harbaugh, Catharine.
 Harp, Minnie.
 Heilman, Samuel.
 Heitler, William.
 Heller, Allen.
 Helt, Florence.
 Heltzel, William.
 Henning, Horatio.
 Henry, Alice May.
 Hensel, Thomas.
 Herman, Jonathan M.*
 Herman, M. Elizabeth.
 Hertzell, Lilly V.
 Heltensperger, Herman.
 Hipple, Mary May.
 Hoffman, Mary.
 Hougendobler, George.
 Hougendobler, William.
 Horner, Thomas.
 Howe, Henry W.
 Howe, Rebecca.
 Howe, Nathan.
 Hoover, Harry.
 Hoover, Robert.
 Horstick, Maria.
 Hospelhorn, Charles.
 Hunschberger, John.
 1888-1906.
 Hackman, Mabel.
 Hackman, Minnie.
 Hain, William.

Hain, Charles.
Haines, Florence.
Haines, Herbert.
Hanna, Mervin.
Harp, Charles.
Hart, Harry.
Hart, Robert.
Hartzel, George.
Hauseman, Florence.
Hauseman, Katie.
Hauseman, Wayne.
Hauseman, Stuart.
Haverstick, Katie.
Haverstick, Mabel.
Heist, Robert.
Heist, Sadie.
Hefflebauer, Mary.
Heffner, Lizzie.
Heller, Margaret.
Henry, Robert.
Henry, Lewis.
Henry, Charles.
Henry, Lizzie.
Herbine, Jonas.
Herbine, Solomon.
Herber, Edna.
Herr, Andrew.
Herr, Robert.
Herr, Ross.
Hiller, Edward.
Hildebrandt, Margaret.
Hildebrandt, Florence.
Hinkle, Albert.
Hoffman, George.
Hoffman, Luther.
Hoffman, William.
Hohn, Harvey.
Hohn, Mary.
Hohn, Roy.
Holcombe, Gregory.
Holcombe, Harold.
Hummel, Irvin.
Hummel, Jonathan.
1863-1888.
Inglefelter, Sallie.
Isenberg, Elmer.

Isenberg, Harry M.
Ingler, Paul.
1888-1906.
Inman, Joseph.
1863-1888.
Kane, Edward H.
Kane, James.
Keeler, Charles.
Kelley, Lizzie.
Kelley, Mary E.
Kelley, Katie.
Kemery, Sarah.
Kemmerer, Chas. J.
Kennel, Calvin.
Kennel, Lilly.
Kepp, Edward Lewis
Kiefer, Albert H.
Kiefer, John S.
Kimmel, William.
Kinsel, Peter.
Klock, Annie.
Klock, William.
Koch, James.
Koch, Thomas.
Kramer, Harry.
Kopfender.
1888-1906.
Kehres, Henry.
Keim, Viola.
Keim, Clarence.
Keller, William.
Keller, Wilfred.
Keyser, Harry.
Keyser, Frank.
Keyser, Mary.
Keyser, John.
King, Kate.
Kissner, Bertha.
Kistler, Charles.
Kistler, Clarence.
Klopp, Ira.
Knauss, Cora.
Knauss, William.
Knauss, Clarence
Knepper, Mary.
Knepper, George

Knoll, Earl.
Knoll, Walter.
Knopp, Joseph.
Knopp, Harold.
Koone, Ohlinger.
Kriker, Gilbert.
Kuntz, David.
Kuntz, John.
Kuttner, Oscar.
Kuttner, Harry.

1863-1888.

Laible, Henry.
Lambert, Kate.
Land, John.
Land, Stephen L.
Land, Thos. S.
Lanick, Hattie T.
Leaser, Emma.
Leaser, Frank.
Leberman, Anselm.
Liese, Kate.
Leisey, Dora.
Leisey, Leroy.
Leiby, Henry.
Leopold, Charles D.*
Leopold, Emily J.
Leopold, Jessie P.
Leopold, Mary.
Levan, Agnes.
Levan, Light.
Loeb, Harrison F. J.
Loeb, Alvin H.
Lusch, Lillie.
Lynn, Frank.
Lynn, Herbert.

1888-1906.

Landis, Robert.
Landis, Howard.
Lange, Pauline.
Lange, Frieda.
Laros, Stanely.
Latshaw, Ethel.
Latshaw, Frank.
Laubert, William.
Laubert, Charles.

Leininger, Ralph.
Levering, John.
Little, Martha.
Little, Jennie.
Little, Ralph.
Little, Naomi.
Luckenbill, Lizzie.
Luckenbill, Daniel.

1863-1888.

Machmer, Charles E.
Manderbach, David.
Mowry, Morgan, R.
McCarroll, James.
McCauley, Jane.
McCumley, Zurah.
McDougal, Alexander.
McDougal, Ann E.
McGee, George.
McLain, Charles.
McLain, Harvey.
McLain, John.
McManaway, Harry.
McManaway, Lenora.
McMicken, Agnes.
McNamarra, Annie.
McNamarra, William.
Mellinger, Charles.
Meyer, Lucetta.
Meyer, Sarah.
Miller, George.
Miller, Grant.
Miller, Barbara.
Miller, Jeremiah.
Moony, John.
Moyer, Cornelius.
Moyer, Francis.
Moyer, Joseph.
Moyer, Sallie.
Muschlitz, Martha.

1888-1906.

Markley, Henry.
Markley, Edward.
Marsh, Mary.
Marsh, Elsie.
Masters, Lewis.
Masters, Clinton.

Masters, George.
 Mayberry, William.
 Mayer, Chrissie.
 Mayer, Oscar.
 McDannel, Abram.
 McIlvain, Walter.
 Miller, Warren.
 Miller, Susan.
 Miller, Naomi.
 Miller, Horace.
 Miller, George.
 Miller, Stanley.
 Miller, George.
 Miltenberger, Kate.
 Miltenberger, Albert.
 Mincemoyer, Reuben.
 Mottern, Percy.
 Mottern, Pearl.
 Moyer, William.
 Moyer, William Josiah.
 Moyer, Ralph.
 Moyer, Flora.
 Moyer, Rebecca.
 Moyer, William.
 1888-1906.
 Nagle, Bertha.
 Noel, Albert.
 Noel, James.
 Noel, Harry.
 1863-1888.
 O'Brien, Annie.
 O'Brien, Richard.
 Ochs, Charles.
 Odenaugh, Henry.
 1863-1888.
 Paine, Eva.
 Paine, Thomas.
 Palsgrove, Henry A.
 Parsons, Claudius D.
 Parsons, Helen R.*
 Parsons, Walter J.
 Parsons, Annie.*
 Pennington, Rebecca.
 Peters, Joseph.
 Peterson, Lizzie.
 Pfrommer, Charles.

Pfrommer, Lewis.
 Post, Anna.
 1888-1906.
 Pearson, Lewis.
 Peck, Herman.
 Peters, Frederick.
 Peters, Sarah.
 Peters, Nathan.
 Peters, Charles.
 Peters, Elsie.
 Peters, Ruth.
 Peters, Mabel.
 Peters, Russel.
 Peters, Margaret.
 Plasterer, John.
 Pulfrich, Charles.
 1863-1888.
 Ramsey, Richard.
 Rauch, Robert E.
 Rauch, Agnes.
 Reber, Karl.
 Reber, Phelephe.
 Reigert, Mary.
 Reigel, Charles.
 Reigel, William.
 Reis, Lewis.
 Rissel, Levi.
 Ritter, Wm. D.
 Rockwell, Jeremiah.
 Rockwell, John.
 Rockwell, Samuel.
 Rockwell, Wm. H.
 Roth, William.
 Rudloff, Frank.
 Ruhl, John S.
 Ruhl, Maria M.
 Rupp, Frederick, J.
 Rupp, Herman G.
 1888-1906.
 Rader, Bertha.
 Rader, Dairl.
 Reed, Beatrice.
 Reed, Preston.
 Reinhard, Mabel.
 Reinhard, Helen.
 Reiss, William.

Ress, Raymond.
Rhoads, Harry.
Rhoads, Bessie.
Rhoads, Irvin.
Riegel, George.
Riegel, Harry.
Reigert, Louisa.
Romberger, Foster.
Rudy, Cora.
Rudy, Estella.
Rupert, May.
Rupert, Roy.
Ruth, Frank.
Ruth, James.

1863-1888.

Sammel, Mary J.
Savitz, Fayettea.
Savitz, Oscar.
Saylor, David M.
Saylor, Nancy E.
Schall, George.
Schall, Maud.
Schelley, Jacob.
Schively, George F.
Schmidt, Mary A.
Schneider, Frank L.
Schnell, Magdalena.
Scholl, Griffis.
Scholl, John.
Scholl, Frank.
Schwartz, John A.
Sechler, David.
Seitz, Alexander.
Seitz, Andrew.
Seitz, Anna M.
Seltzer, Joseph.
Seltzer, William.
Schafer, Lizzie A.
Schafer, Mary M.
Shankweiler, Ida.
Shatz, John.
Shelley, Jacob.
Shively, Grace.
Shively, Lizzie.
Shomo, Carrie.
Shomo, John.

Shoup, Cecilia.
Shoup, John.
Shoup, Wilhelmina.
Shubert, Albert.
Shubert, John.
Shubert, William.
Shultz, Richard.
Seimon, Josie.
Sellers, Willie.
Simon, Mary Alice.
Smith, Chas. (son of John).
Smith, Chas. (son of George)
Smith, Elmer F.
Smith, John.
Smith, Lewis O.
Smith, Mary Alice.*
Smith, Philip.
Smith, William.
Smith, Hauck.
Snyder, Daniel.
Snyder, William A.
Spayd, Mittie Blanche.
Spcerel, Henry C.
Spcerel, Philip.
Stauffer, George E.
Stauffer, Francis H.
Stein, James A.
Stein, David H.
Stecker, William.
Stecker, James A.
Steinbach, Annie.
Steinbach, John.
Steinbach, Matilda.
Steinable, Jacob.
Stire, Mary A.*
Stirrel, Frank.
Stirrel, Mary.*
Stoneback, George.
Stoneback, Samuel K.
Stricker, Clara.
Strohm, Emma R.
Stung, Annie.*
Swartz, Annie.
Swartz, Frederick.
Swartz, Harry.

1888-1906.

Saltzman, Addie.
Saltzman, William.
Saltzman, Hettie.
Saylor, Lavina.
Saylor, Sophia.
Schaeffer, Rosie.
Schaeffer, Jennie.
Schlegel, Frank.
Schifflet, Raymond.
Schifflet, Isaac.
Schott, Martin.
Schueck, Leon.
Seibert, Frances.
Seiss, Anna.
Shank, Harry.
Shank, Willie.
Shank, Bessie.
Shank, Marguerite.
Shank, Ida.
Shank, Meyers.
Shellhammer, David.
Shellhammer, Oliver.
Shepler, Mabel.
Shepler, Austin.
Sheridan, John.
Sherman, Thomas.
Sherman, Jonathan.
Sherman, Roy.
Shipe, Bessie.
Shipe, Warren.
Shoemaker, Harry.
Shoemaker, John.
Sholly, Howard.
Shugar, Beatrice.
Shugar, Dietha.
Siglin, Howard.
Sloyer, Minerva.
Smith, Charles.
Smith, William.
Smith, Harry.
Smith, Clayton.
Smock, Warren.
Snook, Harry.
Snook, William.
Snook, Sara.

Snook, Olive.
Snook, Frederick.
Snyder, Harry.
Snyder, William.
Snyder, Stanley.
Snyder, Ralph.
Spaeth, Annie.
Spaeth, Minnie.
Starr, Mary.
Starr, Ruth.
Stecklein, Lillian.
Stecklein, Alice.
Stein, Emily.
Stein, George.
Steinkomph, Paul.
Stern, Mary.
Stettler, Frederick.
Stettler, George.
Stoker, Charles.
Stover, Fay.
Stover, Ruth.
Stover, George.
Stover, Guy.
Stover, Amy.
Sweigart, Paul.

1863-1888.

Taylor, Fremont.
Taylor, Mary E.
Tchlittler, Friedolin.
Thomas, William.
Torbert, Jennie.
Trenwith, Emma.
Trenwith, Richard.
Trible, Henry.

1888-1906.

Trautman, Robert.
Trautman, Charles.
Troel, Henrietta.
Troel, Louis.
Troutman, Alice.
Troutman, Clarence.
Trumbore, Alma.
Trumbore, George.

1888-1906.

Ulrich, Rufus.

1863-1888.

Van Gunden, Wm.*
 Van Rank, Emma.
 Van Rank, George..6
 Voght, Catharine.
 Voght, Emily J.
 Voght, John.

1888-190.

Vandever, Raymond.
 Voetsch, John.
 Voetsch, William.
 Vonada, Jay.
 Vonada, Susie.

1863-1888.

Waegly, Edna.
 Wagner, George.
 Wagner, Mary.
 Wagner, Sally A.
 Walmer, Maggie.
 Walmer, Mary.
 Waltz, John G.
 Waltz, Joseph.
 Waltz, Marolina.
 Waltz, William.
 Weidman, Annetta.
 Weidman, Charles.*
 Weidman, David.*
 Weidman, Sally Ann.
 Weidman, John.
 Weidman, Peter.
 Welker, Samuel.
 Wentz, Henry.
 Wentz, Jacob.
 Wentz, John.
 Wentz, Valentine.
 Whertlog, Lugen.
 Whertlog, Sarah.
 Winslow, Eddie.
 Winter, John.
 Wise, Katie.
 Wisner, Mary R.
 Wisner, Mittie.
 Wilhelm, Mattie.
 Wilhelm, Grace.
 Wolf, John.
 WolfSarah.

Wolfensperger, John.

1888-1906

Wachter, Florence.
 Wagoner, Calvin.
 Warner, Ida.
 Warner, Robert.
 Wary, Cora.
 Wary, Calvin.
 Wary, Edith.
 Weaver, Joseph.
 Weaver, William.
 Weaver, Tamar.
 Weaver, Edward.
 Wentzel, Edna.
 Wentzel, Edith.
 Werner, Robert.
 Werner, George.
 Wetter, Paul.
 Wetzel, George.
 Wetzel, Emmal,
 White, George.
 Whitman, George.
 Whitman, Charles.
 Witmer, Lizzie.
 Witmer, Mary.
 Witmer, Thurman.
 Winemiller, Mary.
 Wismer, Earl.
 Wismer, Ralph.
 Wissler, Florence.
 Wissler, Raymond.
 Wolfe, Calvin.
 Wolfe, Samuel.

1863-1888.

Yost, Frederick.
 Yost, William.
 Young, Albert.
 Young, Estella.
 Young, Lilly.
 Young, Paul.
 Young, Sarah J.
 Younkin, Amanda C.
 Younkin, George W.
 Younkin, John P.
 Younkin, Sarah A.
 Younkin, William H.

1888-1906.

Young, Mary.

Young, Annie.

Young, Andrew.

Young, Harry.

1863-1888.

Zimmerman, Belle.

Zimmerman, Franklin.

Zimmerman, Henry.

1888-1906.

Zearfoss, Maggie.

Zearfoss, Katie.

Zearfoss, Jesse.

Zellers, Harry.

Zellers, May.

Zetty, Esther.

Zetty, Lizzie.

Zimmerman, Anna.

Zug, Florence Gail.

Zug, Arthur.



CROWD ON ANNIVERSARY DAY, 1904.

